

Cypriot leaders to study confidence-building steps

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali proposed Monday that leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities begin talks here this week by discussing placing part of the uninhabited resort town of Varosha under U.N. administration and reopening Nicosia Airport, also under U.N. control.

Both have ceased to function since Turkish troops landed in the north of the island in 1974, after a coup in Nicosia backed by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Dr. Ghali was addressing a closed-door session attended by Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş, and by representatives of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the United States, Russia, Britain, China and France.

The secretary-general was accompanied by his new special representative for Cyprus, former Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark.

The meeting, which lasted about 40 minutes, marked the start of a new round of long-running negotiations aimed at reuniting the divided island in a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation.

The talks have so far concentrated on a so-called "set of ideas" and map which Dr. Ghali presented to both sides last summer. The most recent negotiating round ended inconclusively last November.

According to a copy of the secretary-general's opening remarks, obtained by Reuters, he proposed that, before returning to the "set of ideas" and map, they focus first on measures designed to foster confidence between the two communities.

He suggested they begin by discussing two "especially significant and related" issues:

A. Placing an important area of Varosha — the former Greek Cypriot resort adjoining Famagusta — under U.N. administration "and it's becoming a special area for bi-communal contact and commerce open equally to both sides," and

B. The reopening, also under U.N. administration, of Nicosia Airport "for passenger and cargo traffic from and to both sides."

The secretary-general said these two confidence-building measures "carry concrete benefits to each side and to Cyprus as a whole."

Placing part of Varosha under U.N. administration would benefit Greek Cypriots and others who would be able to reclaim possession of their properties, he said.

At the same time the Turkish Cypriot side would derive important benefits from "guaranteed opportunities to engage freely in business in the area and from the fact that foreign tourists will be able to pass through the area to the northern part of the island and to stay there."

The Turkish Cypriots proclaimed their own state in the north of the island in 1983 with Mr. Denktaş as president but it is recognised only by Turkey and is the object of a boycott by the Greek Cypriots.

Dr. Ghali continued: "With the reopening, under United Nations administration, of Nicosia International Airport, located in the United Nations protected area and defunct since 1974, passengers and cargo could access freely through the airport to and from each side."

"The transforming impact of this measure on the economic situation of the Turkish Cypriot community is clear," he added.

The deputy U.N. representative for Cyprus, Gustave Feissel, who recently took up residence in Nicosia, has discussed both issues with the two leaders during the past month.

"It will be a principal objective of ours this week to finalise agreement on these important measures," the secretary-general said.

Dr. Ghali leaves New York next weekend on a lengthy trip to North Africa and Europe and the Cyprus talks are expected to continue only until the end of this week.

On Tuesday, Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktaş were due to hold a joint meeting with senior U.N. officials including Mr. Clark, Mr. Feissel and Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Mark Rackham, in preparation for a meeting with Dr. Ghali later in the day.



KADDOUMI IN BEIRUT: Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Boust (right) Tuesday welcomes a Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) team headed by Political Department head Farouk Kaddoumi (left) upon its arrival in Beirut from Damascus for talks on the peace process (AFP photo)

Security Council extends sanctions imposed on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council Monday decided to keep economic sanctions clamped on Iraq because Baghdad is seen as still not cooperating fully with the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire.

The sanctions bar all trade with Iraq, but allow it to import food, medicine and other humanitarian goods. But with no legal foreign trade, Baghdad has little or no hard currency to buy food and medicine abroad.

At one of its periodic 60-day reviews of the comprehensive sanctions on Iraq, the council members saw no reason to relax the sanctions regime.

The decision came hours after reports circulated that the Iraqi government was massing troops and tanks in northern Iraq, raising fears of a renewed attack on Kurds in the region.

Iraq still refuses to recognise the border demarcated by U.N. surveys between it and Kuwait, and last week boycotted the final meetings of the U.N. boundary commission that redrew the border.

U.S. officials are also investigating whether the government sent Iraqi agents into Kuwait to assassinate former President George Bush when he visited the emirate in late April to receive thanks for helping liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

The sanctions were imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Iraqi troops occupied the emirate for seven months until they were driven out by the U.S.-led allied coalition in the Gulf war.

Iraq has refused to sell \$1.6 billion in oil under strict U.N. supervision to generate funds for Iraqi relief programmes, war reparations and to pay for U.N. programmes to dismantle Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. Iraq says the restrictions on the oil sale violate its sovereignty.

The Security Council, meeting behind closed doors, formally decided Iraq had not fulfilled requirements of all the Gulf war resolutions, which centre on demolishing Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction.

"We have decided there is no justification for amending them in any way," Britain's ambassador, Sir David Hannay, said.

In answer to questions, he said that some of the delegations who spoke at the meeting mentioned "the continuing repression of both Kurds and Shiite minorities in Iraq."

But he indicated there was no discussion of unconfirmed reports that Iraq is preparing to attack Kurdish enclaves in the north.

Later, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said that the U.N. ambassadors of the United States, Britain, France and Russia warned Iraq March 26 that "any provocative actions would receive a firm and united response, and that warning remains in effect."

Mr. Boucher said Iraq had had considerable forces in the north for some time. He declined to discuss the situation further.

But a senior State Department official said there had been no dramatic new developments since March 26 and described a New York Times report as "hyped, although we continue to have concerns."

Quoting Western diplomats in the region and Kurdish military commanders, the New York Times said Iraqi forces have moved long-range artillery, tanks and trucks to the front in the last few days, concentrating their buildup in areas south of Erbil and Sulaimaniyah. The Times said an Iraqi assault against those Kurdish areas could come as early as the first week in June.

Earlier, prior to a meeting with Foreign Minister Youssef Ben Alawi of Oman, Secretary of State Warren Christopher told a questioner there had been "some preliminary reports with respect to Iraqi troop movements."

"What I would say to Saddam Hussein is that we intend to enforce the United Nations resolutions with great resoluteness. He knows what he has to do," Mr. Christopher said, "and we'll be watching very carefully for any changes in that situation that might call for further action by the United States."

The United Nations meanwhile warned that aid for the Kurds in northern Iraq as well as for needy people suffering the effects of the trade embargo in the rest of the country, will be brought to an end within weeks unless Western countries provide more money and supplies.

In a letter sent to the president of the Security Council early last week, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali warned that unless the United Nations received more money and food from donor countries, he would be forced to suspend the whole relief programme in Iraq as well as in the Kurdish-controlled northern areas by "the end of May 1993 or mid-June 1993."

MEA urges Washington to end ban

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon stands to lose up to \$100 million this summer because of a U.S. ban on air ticket sales to Beirut, the chairman of Lebanon's national carrier says.

Abdul Hamid Fakhoury, president of Middle East Airlines (MEA), said an estimated 30,000 Lebanese Americans were expected to fly to Lebanon in the summer season.

"Unfortunately, the American administration banned us from providing reservations through Europe for passengers in the United States destined for Beirut," Mr. Fakhoury said at a news conference at MEA headquarters at Beirut airport.

"This is going to strip the MEA from \$15 million and Lebanon from up to \$100 million because the 30,000 Lebanese Americans are not going to be able to make it back to the motherland," Mr. Fakhoury added.

He was referring to a recent U.S. crackdown on MEA ticket sales in the United States to Beirut in violation of a U.S. travel ban on Lebanon.

Mr. Fakhoury said MEA was willing to pay the fine of \$1,000 for each day its office in New York has issued tickets for Beirut, a sum of around \$3 million.

"We have complied with the ban and have stopped MEA flights to the United States. But we never thought the ban also includes those Lebanese wishing to travel back to their motherland," Mr. Fakhoury said.

The American ban on Lebanon dates back to the 1982 hijacking of a TWA jetliner to Beirut, where more than 30 American passengers were held hostage for 17 days and a U.S. navy diver was killed.

Mr. Fakhoury said, nevertheless, MEA continued to issue bookings for Beirut-bound passengers via Europe by printing the number of the Beirut-London Flight 202 on the ticket plus Damascus.

"We have always thought the American administration, which was aware of our operation, did not mind this procedure and thus kept silent about it for seven years," Mr. Fakhoury said.

He appealed to the United States to reconsider the ban and allow Lebanese Americans to travel to Lebanon before for the summer season beginning in June.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

S. Arabia criticises Western media

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia's interior minister, Prince Nayef Ben Abdul Azz, has sharply attacked Western media for focusing on human rights in the kingdom. Prince Nayef, quoted by the Qatari News Agency Monday, said Western media had malicious aims against the Arab World and against Saudi Arabia in particular, where he said simple events were exaggerated. He said Saudi Arabia practised Islamic law and respected human rights more than European and Western countries which he said were attacking Saudi Arabia's record. "We are an Islamic state fully implementing Islamic Sharia law in all matters. This does not suit some of the Western media, who inflate any simple or normal event in Saudi Arabia," he said. "Where are the Palestinians' human rights, and where are the principles of human rights which are violated daily in Bosnia-Herzegovina?" he asked. "Why do the Western agencies not deal with these cases?" The Qatari News Agency report said Prince Nayef was speaking at a news conference Sunday evening in Mina, a few kilometres from the Holy City of Mecca. His comments as reported by the agency made no reference to Saudi Arabia's crackdown on a group of ultra-conservative religious figures who set up the kingdom's first human rights group earlier this month.

Fundamentalists jailed in Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — A Tunisia court handed down prison sentences of seven years each Tuesday on 46 Islamic fundamentalists accused of forming a guerrilla group. Lawyers said Tuesday. The defendants were arrested in 1991. They denied during their week-long trial belonging to the Commandos of Sacrifice, an offshoot of the banned Islamist movement Al Nahda. Three were sentenced to seven years and 43 to seven years and two months. Sixteen others tried in their absence were given sentences of 11 years, the lawyers said. Nearly 300 Muslim fundamentalist leaders and activists were tried last year for plotting against the state and sentenced to jail terms ranging from a few years to life.

Ex-Italian diplomat going to Sudan as U.N. envoy

UNITED NATIONS (R) — An Italian diplomat was appointed Monday as special U.N. envoy to Sudan where a million people risk starvation resulting from a 10-year-old civil war. Vieri Traxler, a former U.N. ambassador from Italy, intends to visit the country and neighbouring nations shortly to focus international attention on Sudan's humanitarian crisis. A U.N. statement said Mr. Traxler, who would also go to Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda, would consult with Nigerian authorities, host country for the recent abortive peace talks between the Sudanese government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

Iranian police nab highway robbers

TEHRAN (R) — Police have arrested four thieves who stopped a businessman on an airport highway after he returned from Germany and robbed him of about \$120,000 cash, a newspaper said. The robbers, posing as security agents, stopped the Iranian businessman's taxi on the highway, told him he was under investigation and took him to their car, making off with his case containing 162,000 German marks (\$100,000) and \$20,000 in cash, it said. Police tracked down the robbers by watching street corner foreign exchange dealers. A fraction of the cash plus large amounts of rials were recovered from the robbers who said they bought two cars with the rest of the money. Kayhan said. Thieves face long jail terms in Iran.

World Bank readies Yemen education project

SANAA (R) — The World Bank is preparing a project to improve the quality of secondary education in Yemen, a senior bank official said Monday. Senior specialist Youssef Saran said the six-year project, costing between \$30 million and \$60 million, would also improve female access to secondary education and establish a community college system oriented to the labour market. Mr. Saran, who is leading a team in Sanaa, said the World Bank was expected to decide in October on final approval for the project and how much financial support to offer. He said the World Bank has since 1972 loaned former South Yemen and North Yemen over \$175 million to cover 14 educational and health projects.

Bomb explodes at Iran newspaper office

TEHRAN (R) — A bomb exploded at the office of Ettelaat, Iran's second biggest newspaper publishing group, a newspaper reported. Salam newspaper said the blast hit the ground floor of the Ettelaat office in central Tehran last week. It did not say if it caused any casualties or damage. Ettelaat editors declined to comment on the report. Windows of the Ettelaat office were smashed during a protest last month by a group of "Basijis," paramilitary volunteers in the Revolutionary Guards Corps, who took offence at an issue of Ettelaat's weekly magazine. Salam said the explosion which occurred after midnight was probably linked to the same row which started when the weekly printed the picture of a Revolutionary Guard commander killed during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war next to a story headlined: "I have become mentally disturbed." The weekly denied the layout was intentional and apologised for the slip. Ettelaat is the sixth Iranian publication whose office has come under attack by bombs or demonstrators for various reasons in the past two years.

Saudis collect \$95 million to help Bosnians

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia has collected over \$95 million in private and official donations to help Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the official Saudi Press News Agency said Monday. The agency, quoting an announcement by a Saudi government charitable organisation, said the organisation collected 241.8 million riyals (\$64.5 million) from private donations and 114.6 million riyals (\$30.5 million) from government and official sources. It said most of the aid, coordinated by the higher committee for the collection of donations, was given directly to the Muslim government of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It said the committee was also supervising the feeding of hundreds of refugees at Muslim camps in the Croatian cities of Zagreb and Split. It was also organising health care and education for the refugees, the agency said. The committee is run by Prince Salman Ben Abdul Azz, governor of Riyadh and brother of King Fahd.

'U.S. tried to topple Qadhafi with Iraqi aid'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States sent Libyan rebels to train in Iraq in the 1980s so they could overthrow Muammar Qadhafi, former government officials said Monday.

The operation was part of a developing intelligence relationship between Iraq and the United States that was to include over time the passing of U.S. satellite information to help Baghdad in its eight-year war with Iran, the official said.

The full extent of the cooperation has not been revealed. But the Bush administration, defending itself against a storm of congressional criticism following the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, left the impression it was limited to U.S. help for Iraq against Iran.

The decision to send several hundred Libyans for training in Iraq served several purposes, said former Reagan White House aide Howard Teicher in an interview.

Iraq wanted to get even with Colonel Qadhafi for supporting Iran in the war, he said, and Egypt wanted to encourage U.S. support for Iraq to block Iran from winning and spreading Muslim fundamentalism through the region.

Also, said Mr. Teicher, the United States wanted to topple Col. Qadhafi, accusing him of terrorism and attempts to destabilise his neighbours.

The Libyan exiles attempted a coup against Col. Qadhafi in May 1984, but it was immediately crushed, Mr. Teicher recounted in his book, "Twin Pillars to Desert Storm," a chronicle of U.S. policy in the Mideast from President Richard Nixon to President George Bush.

Another former official, who asked not to be named, said the plot involved a raid by seaborne commandos who fired rockets and machine guns towards a military barracks used by Col. Qadhafi.

The operation was crushed, and the estimated 15 rebels were killed in the raid or captured and later executed. The exiles were mostly students and dissidents living in Britain, Italy and other European countries, said Mr. Teicher.

The United States also trained other Libyans, captured in Chad when Libya invaded that country in the mid-1980s, to mount cross-border sabotage raids but failed to inflict much damage in Libya. The Bush administration brought some 300 of these Libyan prisoners to the United States in 1991 after Chad evicted them.

Iraq's willingness to train Libyan exiles encouraged those in the administration who wanted improved ties with Baghdad, said Mr. Teicher, an opponent of the developing relationship.

The cooperation also strengthened those in the administration who argued that Iraq had stopped its support of "terrorism" and was proving it by its willingness to fight Libyan "terrorism," he said.

British politician alleges bid to cover Iraq scandal

LONDON (R) — British intelligence knew Iraq was developing a supergun years before parts were stopped on their way to Baghdad, a former politician and key informant in the British arms-for-Iraq scandal said Monday.

Sir Hal Miller also alleged at a judicial inquiry into the affair that a top government official tried to cover up the scandal — a charge that was promptly denied.

Mr. Miller said he told intelligence officers in 1988 that Iraq was having "missile tubes" manufactured by a British engineering firm. His intelligence source had replied that his information "confirmed everything they knew," he added.

Yet apparently nothing was done to stop the huge gun being prepared by British engineering firms until barrel sections were intercepted on their way to Iraq in April 1990 — four months before Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Mr. Miller also accused former Attorney General Sir Patrick Mayhew of trying to prevent evidence about the case from coming to court. He said Mr. Mayhew, now Northern Ireland secretary, urged him not to produce documents that could have cleared businessmen accused of illegally exporting weapons to Iraq.

"Ministers were prepared to see businessmen wrongly convicted rather than tell how much they knew about our arms trade with Iraq," Mr. Miller said.

Mr. Mayhew denied Mr. Miller's allegations.

"I have never urged Sir Hal Miller or anyone else to withhold evidence which would advantage a defendant," he said in a statement. He offered to testify to the inquiry.

Mr. Miller, a long-time leading Conservative with close links to defence equipment firms, has been a key figure in inquiries into the supergun scandal. But this is the first time he has publicly said he told intelligence about the gun in 1988.

Prime Minister John Major ordered the current inquiry by Lord Justice Scott after a fresh case of arms exports to Iraq exploded last November when three British businessmen from the Iraqi-owned engineering firm Matrix Churchill were acquitted of illegally selling arms-making machine tools to Iraq.

Their trial collapsed when the court accepted the government may have relaxed its own arms export rules and encouraged arms and arms-related sales to Iraq.

The government acknowledged the 1991-92 parliamentary inquiry that guidelines written in 1948 and published in 1985 were amended with the end of the Iran-Iraq war in 1988. They were eased to cover only "lethal" equipment of direct and significant aid to either country, thus exempting machine tools.

But the Miller evidence adds to a belief by many politicians that intelligence services knew more than they have let on about the supergun and arms sales in general.

"If Sir Hal Miller's comments are right then this was certainly not a cockup, it would be a conspiracy," said opposition Labour Party politician Jim Cousins, who took part in the inquiry. Mr. Cousins later called for Mayhew to resign.

Foreign Office Minister of State Baroness Chalker said in response to a question in parliament Monday that no lethal defence equipment had been supplied to Iran since 1979.

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	L'histoire des Climats
19:00	News in French
19:15	French Varieties
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Chance (in a million)
21:00	Soccer Match
22:00	News in English
22:30	Second Half of Match
23:00	The Gravy Train
PRAYER TIMES	
03:56	Fajr
05:28	Sunrise (Dua)
12:32	Dhuhr
16:13	Asr
19:37	Maghreb
21:28	Isha
CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellah, Tel. 810740	
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785	
St. Joseph Church Tel. 62490	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757	
Terns Church Tel. 62366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541	
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 62543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Armenian International Church Tel. 625256	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932	
Church of the Nazareth Tel. 675691	
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology	
Some clouds will appear at various altitudes and winds will be westerly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.	
Min./Max. temp.	
Amman	15 / 27
Aqaba	22 / 35
Deserts	15 / 31
Jordan Valley	20 / 33
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR	
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Mohammad Imran	612232
Dr. Nidal al Mahari	751672
Dr. Youssef Rashid	896301
Dr. Mukhlis Mazahreh	820425
Pina pharmacy	661912
Fordous pharmacy	783636
Al Asena pharmacy	637055
Nazroukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Shmouel pharmacy	644945
Yacoub pharmacy	637460
Shmouel pharmacy	637460
Nazroukh pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	847632
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Emergency	630041
Rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade	891223
Blood Bank	751321
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	605889
Prior Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality	
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	623101
Abdali Telephone	661101
Jordan Television	773111
Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	689100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power	
Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	06-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport	06-53200
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Ama	644281/6
Abdali Maternity, J. Ama	64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642632
Malhas, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmouel	664171/4
Shmouel Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Musater Hospital	667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Imam, Al-Mohajres	777101/3
Al-Basir, J. Ashraf	775112/6
Army, J. Amman	891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
Amal Hospital	674135
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)90560
Ibn Sina Hospital	(09)986732
Al-Hikma Modern Hospital	(09)99099
IBRD:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(02)725535
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
06:00	Aden (RJ)
06:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:00	Aqaba (RJ)
10:00	Jeddah (RJ)
11:00	Amman (RJ)
12:00	Amman (RJ)
13:00	Amman (RJ)
14:00	Amman (RJ)
15:00	Amman (RJ)
16:00	Amman (RJ)
17:00	Amman (RJ)
18:00	Amman (RJ)
19:00	Amman (RJ)
20:00	Amman (RJ)
21:00	Amman (RJ)
22:00	Amman (RJ)
23:00	Amman (RJ)
24:00	Amman (RJ)
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
06:00	Beirut (ME)
07:00	Rome (AZ)
08:00	Beirut (ME)
09:00	Beirut (ME)
10:00	Beirut (ME)
11:00	Beirut (ME)
12:00	Beirut (ME)
13:00	Beirut (ME)
14:00	Beirut (ME)
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19:00	Beirut (ME)
20:00	Beirut (ME)
21:00	Beirut (ME)
22:00	Beirut (ME)
23:00	Beirut (ME)
24:00	Beirut (ME)
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in fils per kg.	
Apple	700 / 700
Banana	680 / 680
Banana (Mukammaz)	620 / 620
Banana	540 / 450
Carrot	120 / 90
Cauliflower	250 / 180
Cucumber (large)	120 / 80
Cucumber (small)	240 / 180
Eggplant	240 / 200
Garlic	240 / 180
Grapefruit	240 / 180
Lemon	580 / 500
Marrow (large)	90 / 50
Marrow (small)	150 / 100
Mint	80 / 50
Onion (dry)	230 / 160
Onion (green)	280 / 180
Orange	600 / 250
Pepper (dry)	450 / 350
Pepper (wet)	200 / 150
Potato	210 / 160
Tomato	320 / 300
Spinach	250 / 200

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Israeli treasury says closure slows growth

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's treasury forecast Monday that a closure imposed on the occupied territories two months ago is slowing Israeli economic growth in 1993 and accelerating inflation.

It said the closure, limiting the number of Palestinians from the occupied territories allowed to work in Israel, had mostly hurt the building and farming sectors. It was imposed after 13 Israelis died in Arab attacks in March.

The treasury report, given to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet Sunday, predicts the closure will slow economic growth by 0.5 to one per cent while boosting annual inflation by two to three points.

Gross domestic product rose 6.4 per cent in 1992 compared with 5.9 per cent in 1991. Inflation in 1992 was a single-digit figure for the first time in 23 years — 9.4 per cent, down from 18 per cent in 1991.

While Mr. Rabin has cited "security benefits" in sealing off the occupied territories, Palestinians, the report by Finance Minister Abraham Shorot stressed the economic drawbacks.

It said 116,000 Palestinians worked in Israel before the closure. Since then, only 40,000 work permits have been issued.

Palestinians made up about 45 per cent of Israel's 185,000 construction workers before the closure. Their absence has caused delays, raising demand for rental apartments, rents and inflation, the report said.

It further predicted agricultural labour problems would push up the prices of fresh produce. Palestinians of the occupied territories made up 20 per cent of the agricultural work force before the closure.

The cabinet on Sunday approved a plan to invest \$5.5 million a month in the occupied territories as a temporary measure, training for Israelis and new technology.

Samir Abdullah, a leading economist and member of the Palestinian delegation to Middle East peace talks, said earlier this month the output of goods and services from the occupied territories had dropped by between 50 and 60 per cent.



SHORTLIVED TALKS: Jadran Topic, leader of U.N. forces, for talks with Muslims. Fifteen minutes later the talks collapsed (see related story on Spanish armoured personnel carrier serving with page 8)

London-based organisation seeks to address human rights in Muslim World

By Masa Alout
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The lack of democracy and respect for human rights in the Muslim World is largely responsible for instability, underdevelopment and poverty and thus has led a group of Muslim intellectuals from different parts of the Muslim World to found Liberty.

Liberty, according to its founders, aims at defending and promoting human rights, civil liberties and democratic reforms in the Muslim World.

The organisation was established in February 1992 in London. According to its charter, Liberty is not associated to any political group and does not serve the interest of any regime or government. It is financed by its founding members and donations from supporters and friends.

The aim of the organisation is to shed the light on the "ongoing violation and abuse of human rights so as to enlighten the world's public opinion to the conditions in some countries controlled by totalitarian and repressive regimes in the Muslim World." Furthermore, Liberty says, it wants to "warn against the long-term dangers inherent in supporting repressive regimes to the world's stability and prosperity."

Liberty's first action was in Algeria where it formed "The Friends for Democracy in Algeria" in the aftermath of the cancellation of parliamentary elections and the suspension of the democratic process by the Algerian authorities in January 1992. According to "Sultan," a member of the organisation who did not wish to be further identified, Liberty also co-sponsored a conference at the London School of Economics recently on "Islam and Democracy in North Africa."

Liberty's press releases were prominent and were quoted extensively by news agencies during the recent Saudi crackdown on the group of Saudi scholars who sought to establish the first human rights organisation in the Arabian Peninsula. The Saudi group created the Committee for the Defence

of Legitimate Rights as part of growing calls for reforms in the oil-rich kingdom since the Gulf war.

Liberty has urged the Saudi authorities to release the members of the committee and its supporters. The organisation sees Saudi arrests as further complicating the issue and advocates democratic reforms in Saudi Arabia to ensure the promotion of human rights and civil liberties there.

The organisation has also been active during the Yemeni elections held late last month. Liberty then issued a report on it and attended and monitored the election process as part of its campaign to lobby world support for Muslim countries that take bold steps towards democracy.

The organisation is considering opening branches in the Muslim countries that are willing to practise democracy and accept it. Asked if it was its intention to improve the image of Islam in the West, Sultan said in a letter to the Jordan Times that such an endeavour would be "accomplished as a side-product of our activities."

Women treated worse than men — U.N. report

WASHINGTON (AP) — United Nations researchers are gathering information about the world's women, and so far they have not found a single country that treats its women as well as its men.

Throughout the world, women are the neglected majority, the 1993 U.N. Human Development Report concludes.

Only 33 countries now keep enough gender-based statistics to make comparisons, according to Mahbub Ul Haq, head of a U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) project which is attempting to chronicle the quality of life everywhere on the planet.

Despite a spreading struggle among women for equality that includes changes in national laws and other efforts to decrease gender bias, "no country treats its women as well as it treats its men," the report being released Tuesday reveals.

It draws the conclusion based on a statistical study of the 33 countries and determines that some do much better than others in giving equal opportunities and treatment to women.

Among the worst is Japan, which is ranked number one in the U.N.'s 1993 human development index but drops to seventh when gender differences are considered. The report, including the index, was made available to news media earlier this month and was being formally released at a news conference in New Delhi.

When gender differences are factored in, Japan drops to 17th place in the quality-of-life index based on income, education and life expectancy in 173 countries.

Other countries that decline in the index are Switzerland, Canada, Germany, the United States, Hong Kong, South Korea, Luxembourg and Sri Lanka.

The United States drops from sixth to ninth place in the index. Switzerland drops from fourth to 14th.

None of the 33 countries' score on the index actually improves, but several move up in the rankings because others above them are doing even worse. They include Sweden, France, Denmark, Finland, New Zealand, Belgium and Portugal.

Mr. Haq, a former Pakistani finance minister, said the Human Development Report for 1995 will focus mainly on women in development. By then, he said, researchers hope to gather data from 100 to 150 countries.

The report said discrimination against women in industrial countries is mainly in employment and wages, with women often earning half the salary of men.

In developing countries, it shows disparities also occur in health care, nutrition and education.

In politics, women make up just over 10 per cent of parliamentarians or national legislators and less than four per cent of national cabinets.

At the start of 1993, only six countries had women as head of government, the report said.

The report also concludes that if women's unpaid housework were counted as productive output in national income accounts, global output would increase by 20-30 per cent.

Betselem assails house demolitions

(Continued from page 1)

The report came as Cornelio Sommaruga, the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross wound up a four-day tour of Israel and the occupied territories in which he criticised Israel for denying basic human rights to Palestinians.

Mr. Sommaruga met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, President Ezer Weizman and Palestinian leaders and was due to hold discussions with the ministers for police and justice. A statement from Mr. Weiz-

man's office said Mr. Sommaruga brought up human rights issues, including the killing of Palestinian children by the army and the nearly eight-week closure of the occupied territories. Mr. Weizman said the closure was being gradually eased; the statement added.

Mr. Sommaruga told reporters: "In caring for law and order in your occupied territories, means have to be used that would not be disproportionate of what is the situation and I consider using live ammunition is a serious problem."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kooijmans in Beirut after Syria, Jordan

BEIRUT (AP) — Dutch Foreign Minister Peter Kooijmans discussed the Middle East peace process with Lebanese officials Monday. After talks with President Elias Hrawi, Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and Foreign Minister Faris Boust, he told reporters he was "thrilled by the return of peace to Lebanon." Mr. Kooijmans was the first ranking Dutch official to visit Lebanon since the 15-year civil war ended in 1990. He arrived from Jordan late Sunday. He said his swing was aimed at urging the Arabs and Israel to stick to the Middle East peace process, despite the lack of progress 19 months after it was launched. "It is my fervent wish to see the Middle East peace process successful in the near future," he said.

Turks link Iranian centre to attacks

ANKARA (AP) — A senior Turkish official claimed in an interview published Monday that Iran's cultural centre in Ankara made the arrangements for members of a Turkish Muslim extremist group to receive "terrorist" training in Iran. Renewing charges of an Iranian hand behind "terrorist" attacks in Turkey, Interior Minister Ismet Sezgin for the first time identified two Iranian diplomats who purportedly had contacts with the Turkish group called Islamic Action. Two members of Islamic Action are in jail for a failed attack against a prominent Jewish businessman in Istanbul earlier this year and the group is also suspected in the killing in January on Ugar Muncu, a leading Turkish critic of Islamic fundamentalism. A high-level security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said officials of the Iranian Cultural Centre were protected by diplomatic immunity, which hampered efforts to detain further evidence.

U.S. ties emerge as Iran campaign topic

NICOSIA (AP) — An Iranian presidential candidate said Monday he favoured a face-to-face dialogue with the United States to improve relations, marred by acrimony since the rise of the Islamic revolution in 1979. "Some would consider direct talks as being harmful whereas indirect talks are much more harmful," former parliament member Rajab Ali Taheri said, according to the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA). He spoke during a debate at IRNA's headquarters which was supposed to be attended by all four candidates running in the June 11 presidential race, including President Hashemi Rafsanjani. However, only Mr. Taheri and one rival, Abdullah Jafar Alai Jaseri, a university chancellor, attended, said IRNA, monitored in Nicosia. The fourth contestant is former Labour Minister Ahmad Tavakoli. "We would not yield to the hegemony of any government," Mr. Taheri said. "Direct talks with Washington to normalise relations" could help safeguard Iranian interests, like unfreezing Iranian assets. "In our foreign policy towards other countries, the United States included, we are not hostile to any government or nation," he added, according to IRNA.

'Peru knowingly shot down U.S. plane'

NEW YORK (R) — Secret documents show that Peruvian fighter jets knowingly shot down a U.S. spy plane last year, killing a crew member, Newsweek magazine reported Sunday. According to a secret U.S. embassy cable obtained by the magazine, a Peruvian base commander left "no doubt" that his pilots knew they shot at a U.S. plane. Newsweek said U.S. Air Force Sergeant Joseph Beard, 34, was reported missing off the Peruvian coast on April 24, 1992, after he was sucked out of a C-130H at 18,500 feet through a hole blown in the plane by Peruvian fighter jets. Four other crewmen were injured. The magazine said the plane was on a spy mission — code-named Furtive Bear — to Peru to secretly photograph cocaine labs and airstrips in the coca-rich Upper Huallaga valley. It was intercepted and forced down by Peruvian jets. But, Newsweek reported, "the U.S. and Peruvian governments don't want anyone to find out why" the plane was shot down. The Pentagon did little to publicise the incident except to clear both countries of serious wrongdoing, it said.

'Friendly fire' kills 4 Israelis

(Continued from page 1)

Minister Yitzhak Rabin as head of the Labour Party. Israeli Radio reports said Mr. Rabin and Gen. Barak were at the army's northern command to hear first reports from soldiers in the field. Mr. Rabin is also defence minister.

Labour legislator Ori Orr, head of parliament's defence and foreign affairs committee, promised an investigation into who was responsible for Monday's "friendly fire" killings.

Meanwhile, three opposition parties withdrew motions of no-confidence against Mr. Rabin's coalition government that were to be debated later Monday. Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of the right-wing Likud Party, said political debates were not appropriate on such a day.

Security sources in Lebanon said the two patrols battled before dawn in a valley near Qantara Village, an area where Israeli forces have repeatedly come under attack in recent weeks. The Lebanese sources said pro-Iranian Hizbullah (Party of God) guerrillas in the nearby Qabirah village, thinking the clash was between guerrillas and an Israeli patrol, fired rockets and machineguns at Israeli helicopter gunships.

Monday's incident and air raid followed an escalation of guerrilla attacks against Israeli forces,

Bush defends record, avoids hitting Clinton

CHICAGO (AP) — Former President George Bush said he would not use a speech to a restaurant's group Sunday to defend his administration. He then proceeded to do exactly that.

"It takes years to take the full measure of any presidency, and that's all right with me, because I am very quietly confident that history will be a kinder and gentler judge than the jury of 1992," Mr. Bush said in a wide-ranging, 50-minute speech before the National Restaurant Association.

"I believe that history will be very generous in its view of the deal I made with Boris Yeltsin to eliminate all intercontinental ballistic missiles," he said. He also defended his decisions to send American troops to the Gulf and to pull them out when he did. And he said he was proud of the job his administration did on the environment, education and the fight against drugs.

"I really wanted to clean up the environment and work with Congress. Or was it work with the environment and clean up Congress?" Mr. Bush joked, drawing laughter and applause. He said he was not bitter and would not cast himself in the role of presidential critic or Congress-basher. Then he blamed the media and Congress for his ouster.

"Democrats in Congress wanted our domestic plan to fail," he said. "After the election, (the media) started having seminars on 'were we fair to George Bush? I don't think they would have held the seminars if they didn't know the answer.'"

The only criticism directed at President Bill Clinton came from Richard Marriott, president and chairman of the board of the National Restaurant Association, who introduced Mr. Bush. Mr. Marriott said national health care and a reduction in how much of a business meal can be deducted from taxes would cause a 10 per cent drop in restaurant sales and cost the industry 165,000 jobs.

"Don't they understand that if we could afford to provide health care, we would provide health care?" Mr. Marriott said, referring to restaurant owners. Mr. Bush would only urge association members not to cave in to anti-lobbying pressure and to keep pushing their legislators on issues they care about.

Mr. Bush sounded at times like a candidate, albeit a much more relaxed and confident one than he was during the campaign. "If there was ever a status quo crowd in Washington, it wasn't at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. It was in Capitol Hill," he said. "You'd think that one of these days, the Congress would wake up and make themselves live by the laws they pass for everybody else."

When someone in the audience shouted, "Bush in '96," Mr. Bush said he has no interest in running again.

Mr. Bush said he and wife, Barbara, are very happy in private life, painting a homey picture on Mrs. Bush cooking, the former president washing dishes, and dog Millie drying them.

Mrs. Bush was writing a book, he said, and he plans to write one as well. They keep close tabs on their children and celebrated the birth of their 13th grandchild Thursday.

Mr. Bush also said the plot to assassinate him during his recent visit to Kuwait was genuine and that he did not learn about it until he returned to the United States.

"Some of you probably read about the attempt in Kuwait, and it was real," Mr. Bush said. "We didn't know about it until after the fact, after we got back to the states," he said. "But had I known... I still would have gone."

"It's not a macho thing. But that's how much confidence I have in the men and women who dedicate their lives to the Secret Service of the United States," he said.

Mr. Bush also praised Kuwaiti security and he said he did not intend to let any kind of threat imprison him.

"I'm going to go right on living my private life," the 68-year-old former president said.

He also said there still is no clear answer, in his view, as to what the United States should do about Bosnia.

Mr. Bush said he still has some misgivings about not taking any particular action, but said his military commanders could not tell him exactly what the mission should be, how it would be accomplished and how U.S. troop involvement would be ended.

"I would be very reluctant to commit force to this situation," Mr. Bush said, adding that military intervention could not work the same way as it did in the Gulf war.

Mr. Bush, who referred to his speech to the national restaurant association as his "coming out party," refused to criticise Clinton even though he was offered a tempting target when a member of the audience asked him where he got his hair cut when he was in the White House. Mr. Clinton this week was the target of criticism for an expensive haircut he had which delayed air traffic.

"I really think it would be inappropriate to criticise the president in a personal way," Mr. Bush said.

But, in musing about his administration and why he lost the election, Mr. Bush warned about the hazards of mixing perception and reality, especially when it comes to making policy on the basis of opinion polls.

Ministry seeks to blow off smoke clouding cigarette market

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A chronic shortage of foreign-made cigarettes in the local market which sent prices shooting up in the past two weeks will be addressed with the arrival Thursday of a shipment by air, officials said Monday.

"We are expecting 250 cartons (of 50 ten-packs) each of the popular brands to land here Thursday, and this would give us a breathing space until another similar shipment arrives after the 'Eid holidays,'" said Mustafa Khleifat, secretary-general of the Ministry of Supply.

He said regular shipments by sea were being realigned to cope with the local demand and said he did not expect any recurrence of the shortage that left thousands rummaging through the market for their

favourite brands. Mr. Khleifat said the ministry, which holds the monopoly of importing cigarettes to the Kingdom, found itself out of stock as a result of an unexpected demand in the market prompted by a tightening of controls on both sides of the Syrian-Jordanian borders against smuggling.

"Those who used to smoke smuggled cigarettes had no choice but to turn to those imported by the ministry and our stocks quickly ran out," he explained.

He said the authorities were reassessing their import schedules and drawing up new plans to cope with what is expected to be a continued high demand for legally imported cigarettes in the face of shortages of smuggled cigarettes.

A gradual rise of prices was visible in the market over the

past six weeks, but there was no clear indication why.

Market sources said black market dealers in smuggled cigarettes, particularly the popular Marlboro brand, more than doubled their prices in the past week.

A packet of smuggled Marlboro cigarettes which used to cost JD 1.1 in retail at the Ministry of Supply price for the brand was being sold for as much as JD 2.5 this week.

Stockists of ministry-imported Marlboros also joined in the fray to take advantage of the situation.

Prices of several other smuggled brands also went up. L&M, described as the "poor man's Marlboro," was being sold at JD 1.1 a pack compared with 600 fils two weeks ago.

Based on conservative estimates that around three million foreign-made cigarettes are consumed in Jordan every

day, market sources say the black market dealers made several million dinars in the bargain.

Mr. Khleifat said the ministry knew what was going on and that the authorities were launching legal proceedings against those found to have violated the price regulations.

He could not provide any explanation as to why many people preferred smuggled Marlboros at a higher price when ministry-imported Marlboros were available in plenty before the crisis.

"We asked the manufacturers, and they told us that the quality was uniform throughout all types," he said.

But many smokers disagree. They say that the packets which bear the number "5" on the American consumer code bar contain a "distinctly different" quality and flavour than those with "4" and "3". The

"5" type fetches the highest price in the black market and the JD 2.5 price was applicable to this type in this week's frenzy.

"Apparently the manufacturers have different blends and flavours for different parts of the world and they have different plants," explained a smoker.

Mr. Khleifat said the Ministry of Supply was getting all its shipments directly from the manufacturers. For instance, he said, Marlboro cigarettes imported by the ministry are shipped direct to the Kingdom from the U.S.

It meant that the other types of the brand available in Jordan came from sources other than the plant which makes the "3" types. Some of the types available here do not carry the consumer code bar.

Agents and stockists who cater to the duty-free trade of

diplomats in Jordan have their own arrangements and sources. Cigarettes seeping to the market from the duty-free trade represent only a negligible part of the overall supply in the country, market sources say.

Some sources, meanwhile, offered an explanation that the shortage in the Jordanian market was an impact down the chain as a result of Syria's tightening of its borders with Lebanon two months ago.

"Very little smuggling is now going on from Lebanon to Syria, and this led to shortages in the Syrian market," explained one source. "This in turn led to reduced quantities available for smuggling into Jordan from Syria, and the tightening of control measures on the Syrian-Jordanian borders made things worse for smugglers."

Another factor that contributed to the shortage, other sources said, was the dwindling of smuggling from Saudi Arabia.

The annual pilgrimage season has brought in hundreds of thousands of foreigners into Saudi Arabia, creating high demands within the Kingdom and leaving little for smuggling, they said.

Cigarette smuggling, a multi-million-dollar industry in Jordan, has been going on for many years. Seepage into local market also came from consignments originally bound for Iraq through the free zones in Jordan in the past years.

Authorities bust several illegal operations and confiscated large quantities of Iraq-bound cigarettes before they entered the Jordanian market last year. Some of the cases are still in court.

COLUMN

Clinton, Chelsea stroll to local book store

WASHINGTON (R) — Any other father and daughter taking a walk Sunday would have gone largely unnoticed, but President Bill Clinton and daughter Chelsea stopped traffic and some tourists during a rare afternoon stroll. Tourists and motorists were surprised to see the president and his daughter walking hand-in-hand to a local book store some three blocks away from the White House.

Mr. Clinton, whose image as a man of the people was tarnished by news of his \$200 haircut aboard Air Force One at Los Angeles Airport last week, shook some hands and nodded hello to avid tourists. The president and his daughter passed over a book about first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on display in the window and another on Chelsea's cat, Socks. Instead, the president bought the latest book by Scott Turow titled Pleading Guilty, while 13-year-old Chelsea settled on five science fiction books.

Ramos takes early morning jog at National Museum

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Philippine President Fidel Ramos didn't let an out-of-town visit interrupt his daily jog Monday. At 5:45 a.m., with a contingent of security personnel and colleagues, Gen. Ramos ran about 3.5 kilometres and performed calisthenics near the National Museum in central Seoul, aides said. Gen. Ramos arrived here Sunday for a four-day state visit which includes talks with South Korean President Kim Young-Sam and a speech at an Asian economic conference. He was driven to the museum grounds from his hotel.

U.K. health officials to review fertility cases

LONDON (R) — British health officials may stop free fertility treatment for single women after disclosures that a mother who gave birth to sextuplets is unmarried and living apart from the father, newspapers said. "Health Secretary Virginia Bottomley is to order a tightening of rules governing the expensive procedure," the Daily Express said. Medical authorities were criticised after it was disclosed that Jean Gibbins, who gave birth to five girls and a boy in the northern city of Leeds, was not married and already had a child. Religious and family groups were demanding to know why Ms. Gibbins, 29, had been accepted for fertility treatment on the government's National Health Service when hundreds of married couples were on waiting lists. The Daily Telegraph said ministers will examine guidelines governing the selection of patients for fertility treatment in light of the controversy. Under the current system regional health authorities decide who will receive the treatment and in some cases hospital doctors. Junior Health Minister Tim Yeo told the Daily Telegraph there were serious questions about why such treatment should be provided to an unmarried woman.

Poor Brits

LONDON (R) — One in four of Europe's poor is British and only Portugal has more people living in poverty than Britain, the observer newspaper said. It said according to the European definition of poverty — an income of less than half of the EC average of £150 (£232) a week — 12 million of the continent's 50 million poor are British. "We are the only country without a minimum wage or statutory protection on working hours, and among the worst on maternity provision, pensions and child care," Chris Pond, director of the Low Pay Unit lobby group, was quoted as saying.

Tourists turned away from Yosemite

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, California (AP) — Visitors without reservations were turned away from Yosemite National Park during the weekend because a heavy snowpack was blocking two important roads. The park was closed for about three hours on both Saturday and Sunday and may be closed for the same time period on Memorial Day weekend, said park spokeswoman Maria Lacass. About 2,000 cars were turned away Sunday. Snow plows have been entering 10-foot to 16-foot (3-metre to 5-metre) drifts left behind by the wettest winter in six years, park officials said.

Piracy hotspot moves to Hong Kong triangle

By Jeff Daeschner
Reuters

LONDON — Piracy, the ancient scourge of sailors, has disappeared from many areas of the world but it still strikes fear into the hearts of crews in Southeast Asia.

Maritime officials here say that despite a decline in reports of attacks worldwide, the global hotspot for piracy seems to have shifted from the narrow Malacca Strait separating Indonesia and Malaysia to a triangle between China, the Philippines and Hong Kong.

"Piracy in many areas has just disappeared," said Eric Ellen, director of the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), at the organisation's headquarters in the Barbican, near London. "It's now located in a very distinct triangle."

The senior technical body of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the United Nations agency that monitors safety on the seas, is due to begin a five-day meeting in London on piracy and other issues on May 24.

The meeting follows a series of mysterious attacks in the part of the triangle near Hong Kong where at least 15 of the 31 incidents reported in the first four months of this year have occurred. This compares with 10 in the southern part of the South China Sea near Indonesia and Malaysia.

International pressure on the governments of Indonesia and Malaysia seems to have decreased the number of attacks near the Malacca Strait.

Officials say they are unsure of the reason behind many of the Hong Kong triangle attacks, which appear to be related to China's efforts to control smuggling into its ports.

"We have classified them all as piratical attacks until we can find out their cause," Mr. Ellen said, adding that many of the attacks qualify as piracy because they occur in international waters and are unwarranted interceptions.

In mid-April, a patrol boat identified as Chinese suddenly approached the Panamanian cargo ship Sun Kung 08 about 290 miles southeast of Hong Kong and ordered it to stop.

When the ship refused, the patrol boat opened fire on it and chased it for 30 minutes. Two Chinese guards eventually jumped on board, jammed the boat's radio transmissions and held the captain at gunpoint on the pretence that the vessel, which was carrying plywood bound for Hong Kong, was involved in smuggling.

After questioning the captain about the cargo the guards left without taking anything. Five days later, a Chinese patrol vessel fired machineguns at the cargo ship Beacon in international waters south of Hong Kong. The ship escaped by increasing speed.

The Hong Kong Marine Department has protested against these attacks and plans to report on them at the IMO meeting.

Mr. Ellen said he hoped to find out the reason for the attacks by creating an independent investigative body that would be run by the IMB's regional centre in Kuala Lumpur and which would provide more details than local authorities reports.

"In order to combat piracy, you have to know exactly the details of what went on," he said. "Unless you know why (the attacks occurred), it's very difficult to combat them."

Reports of attacks worldwide dropped last year to 83 from 107 in 1991, but some experts say the

figures do not reflect the real total.

Shipping companies often do not report attacks, either to protect their reputation among customers or to avoid delays and the high costs of keeping vessels in port for investigations.

"It's still running at far too high a level," said Andrew Limington, spokesman for the British Merchant Navy Officers' Union. "We can't see that anything has been done to really effectively stop the attacks."

Recent deaths in attacks in Southeast Asia show that pirates have become increasingly violent, officials say.

In late April, a boat with 12 armed men stopped four fishing vessels near the Philippines and ordered the crews to jump overboard. The pirates stole the ves-

sels and left.

Five of the crew were later reported missing, feared dead. In the same area in March, a pirate attack resulted in the deaths of three members of an eight-man fishing crew.

Most maritime organisations advise ships to fend off pirate attacks by increasing speed or using water hoses rather than armed guards for fear of escalating the violence.

Mr. Ellen said international pressure on countries with pirate-infested waters provided the best long-term solution to fighting piracy in Southeast Asia.

"The fight isn't over. People travelling this area do it with a great deal of fear and trepidation and we need to remove that fear," he said.



Stand up and challenge the world

Following is the abridged version of the address made by Sue Dahdah, director of the Abdul Hamid Sharaf School, to school graduates Monday, May 24, 1993:

We are gathered this evening for our fifth graduation ceremony and our second in our new premises.

For this year's talk I would like to focus on the world and local problems that face and challenge the young people of today. You have more problems to face than previous generations. You have inherited a troubled world and hopefully you will be equipped to handle these problems and be able to help make the world a better place to live.

Of course, your first challenge is to get through your examinations successfully and then to get accepted in some institution of higher learning which is not an easy endeavour in these competitive times.

When you choose your field of study at university, I would urge you to look beyond the traditional areas of medicine and engineering and turn towards a career that will prepare you to deal with the many problems of the "new world disorder" which affect us directly in Jordan and the Middle East.

One of the most pressing world problems is the use of energy, natural resources and water. Wise use of natural resources and finding ways to provide enough clean water to meet our basic needs in the present and future is becoming more of a problem every day. People all over the world treat water as a never-ending commodity and waste it profusely. We need intelligent young people to work as geologists and environmentalists.

Providing enough food for the growing population of the world

is another problem. Many people are malnourished and many are starving. We need intelligent young people in the field of agriculture.

Prejudice and intolerance towards certain peoples of the world which ultimately leads to violence and war is another problem. We still have not learned to accept people who are different. Instead of becoming a more civilised world as we move towards the 21st century, we are becoming more barbaric. We need intelligent young people to work in the social and political sciences to help combat prejudices.

World health is a problem. We have many incurable diseases that are killing many people. We need intelligent young people to work in scientific research laboratories to find cures for some of the dreadful diseases of our times.

Another problem in the world is education. Too many people are illiterate and are not in schools. Even those who are in school are not being educated to meet the needs of a changing world. We see evidence of this in our own society. People are not learning to think for themselves. Too many people are influenced by what others do and say. We need broad-minded, intelligent young people in the teaching field.

Enough of world problems and challenges for the future. We now have a more immediate challenge to face — one that has been put before us by His Majesty King Hussein: Under his wise, far-sighted leadership the country has prospered and developed and we must continue to work on the challenge of becoming a fully democratic nation. Democracy does not happen overnight with the press of a button. Democracy means more than "freedom to pursue your own self-interest". It

means the responsibility to participate in the life of the community and nation to make it a better place for all to live and work.

It is not an easy task that has been set for the country and its people, but no one ever said that life would be easy. Remember that wherever you go in the world for education, work or whatever, you will face problems. Hopefully you will be equipped to deal with them wisely. Hopefully you will

have the self-confidence and self-respect to stand up to difficulties.

In closing, let me tell you what many people say. They claim that today's youth lack curiosity and patience and that they are indifferent, have a poor sense of the future, are cruel, materialistic, dependent and passive. I challenge you to go out into the world as caring, intelligent, broad-minded young people to prove these pessimists wrong.



Dr. Sue Dahdah welcomes Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday to the Abdul Hamid Sharaf Secondary School for the fifth graduation ceremony

A bodyguard's widow takes on the Mafia

By Clare Pedrick

ROME — She became the symbol of the popular rebellion against the Mafia one rainy day in May 1992 when, deathly pale and close to fainting, she took the stand during her husband's funeral and boldly challenged members of the international criminal network based in Sicily to "get down on their knees" if they wanted forgiveness. The courageous stand taken by bodyguard's widow Rosaria Schifani that day was seen on television screens around the world. For the funeral service of her husband Vito was also that of murdered anti-Mafia crusader Giovanni Falcone, the man who had become almost a folk hero for his fight against organised crime. Thirty-year-old Vito Schifani was one of three bodyguards who died in the massive explosion which killed Judge Falcone and his wife Francesca as their convoy sped from Palermo's airport towards the Sicilian capital.

Today, a year after the tragedy, Rosaria Schifani is continuing the battle she began in Palermo's Church of St. Dominic to free the caskets of her husband and murdered colleagues. In the months that have elapsed since that fateful May 23 the young woman who, on her own admission, hardly knew what the Mafia was until a year ago, has undertaken a voyage of discovery to help her learn more about the man who made her a widow at the age of 22 and who robbed her son Antonino of a father at the age of just four months.

The fruit of her search is a book whose title echoes the message Rosaria sobbed in church to the mafiosi, some of whom, she claimed, were almost certainly sitting among the congregation that day. "I forgive you, but you must get down on your knees."

The book is in part an open letter to the men of the Mafia, whom she reviles for their cowardice, and to their women and children whom she urges to rebel. It is also a reconstruction of the Mafia's reign of terror in Sicily in the past 10 years. And it is the story of Rosaria's encounters with dozens of other widows and orphans in the months that followed her husband's death.

Co-written with Italian journalist Felice Cavallaro, Sicily correspondent for the leading newspaper Corriere della Sera, Rosaria's book was born by chance one day when, during an interview, the young widow saw piled up on Cavallaro's desk a stack of volumes written about the Mafia. "Has so much been written about the Mafia?" she asked, incredulously. Rosaria borrowed a book written by Falcone himself and devoured it in one night. The next day, she came back for more and asked Cavallaro to introduce her to some of the other people, who like her, had become victims of the Mafia. "I have to speak to people who have suffered as I have in this city," she told Cavallaro.

In the series of visits that followed, the young woman met

other women whose husbands had been judges, businessmen, politicians and policemen before being murdered. Many of the widows, who had seen court cases drag on for years and judges hand out acquittals to men suspected of being killers, were deeply cynical and warned Rosaria not to expect justice. "I hoped for so many years. But justice was never done," said Maria Giuliano, whose husband, police chief Boris Giuliano was killed by the Mafia in 1979.

The more she learned, the more fascinated and horrified Rosaria became, and the more determined to make some contribution to defeating the network that had devastated her own life and that of so many other innocent people. "Before, I never took any interest in the Mafia, in politics, in those things," said Rosaria. "I was wrong. I was only interested in my own life — a very simple life."

Rosaria's decision to launch her own personal battle was

strongly motivated by a desire to explain to her small son why he was left fatherless at such a young age, and to try to pass on a better world for him to grow up in. Prefacing the book is a copy of a handwritten letter from Rosaria to her infant son, written shortly after Vito Schifani was killed in the explosion. "Papa is no longer here because the Mafia murdered him one May evening, with a killer bomb rigged to murder a good judge whom he was protecting," reads the letter. "I would like to explain to you properly what the Mafia is and why they did this. But first I have to understand myself."

Rosaria explains to the reader the workings of the Mafia, as she herself unravels it — the links between the organised crime network and Italy's political class, the international drug trafficking and money-laundering, and above all, the bloodshed.

But she also shares the touching story of her romance with Vito, the good-looking

young policeman whose dream was to become a police helicopter pilot. The couple met when Vito was on duty, keeping control at a crowded Palermo unemployment office. Rosaria had gone there to find a job as a teacher. Vito to her infant son, "written shortly after Vito Schifani was killed in the explosion. He took her to meet his family. Soon, they were engaged, then married. Rosaria recalls the honeymoon in the Maldives, a destination chosen by her husband because it meant a long nine-hour flight, a blissful prospect for the airplane-mad policeman. "Someone had given us a video-camera as a wedding present," recalls Rosaria. "The first 15 minutes of our honeymoon video are all shots of the cockpit and of the other airplanes and helicopters on the landing strip."

Rosaria and Vito went to live with Vito's parents, in their modest five-room apartment in Palermo. Rosaria had also applied to join the police force. Then Antonino came a long and the plan

was put on hold. Realising their family would soon be too big to stay with Vito's parents, the couple looked for a place of their own. They found what they wanted and spent hours poring over pencil and paper, planning how they would furnish it. They never moved into their new home. Vito was killed before they had a chance, little more than a year after they were married. "I haven't been back there since," said Rosaria.

Rosaria describes how she learned of the death of her husband, of the terrible dash first to the hospital, then to the mortuary, where she was allowed to see Vito's hands but nothing else. Vito Schifani and the other two bodyguards had been travelling in the first car of the convoy, the one which took the full force of the 600-pound explosion. Their Fiat Croma was catapulted several hundred yards into an olive grove on the side of the freeway. Vito's hands were the only part of him that remained intact.

In the mortuary that May evening, as Rosaria Schifani begged to be allowed to see the remains of her husband, she had her first meeting with Paolo Borsellino, Falcone's childhood friend and fellow anti-Mafia fighter. Judge Borsellino was to become an important father figure for Rosaria, comforting her at the funeral and during the difficult weeks that followed. But her new protector was soon to disappear from her life. Borsellino was himself killed, together with other five of Vito Schifani's fellow bodyguards, in a car bomb explosion 37 days after the Falcone massacre.

With her pale face and slight frame, Rosaria Schifani cuts a sad figure. But in spite of her frail appearance, she has a will of iron and refuses to be cowed. Her challenge to the Mafia at the funeral was proof of that. Several days before his own death, Judge Borsellino revealed that Rosaria's hard-hitting words had struck home in some quarters. "Her words have convinced a great many mafiosi to speak, to cooperate with us," Borsellino told his parish priest, Don Cesare Rattoballi, who is also Rosaria's cousin.

Part of Rosaria's strength is her disarming simplicity. She speaks in plain no-nonsense terms to the people whose actions have made her life a misery, mocking the men who like to be known as "men of honour" by calling them "men without honour." "You call yourselves men of honour, but you don't even know the meaning of the word," she writes in an open letter. "You are nothing but murderers. In Gela (a Mafia-ridden Sicilian town), violence has taken hold of the lives of kids of 15. First they are given a pistol and then they are buried, their bodies thrown among the garbage. Is this the myth you are offering an entire generation?" She appeals to the womenfolk of the Mafia: "You wives, mothers, sisters, daughters of mafiosi, wake up from the torpor that has let you accept all this as inevitable. You have the destiny

of your men in your hands. Save them, save yourselves, save us."

But most of all, the bodyguard's widow appeals to the children of mafiosi, urging them to turn their backs on their parents if they will not listen to reason.

Rosaria Schifani had worked as a teacher in one of the roughest neighbourhoods of Palermo, where many of the children came from deprived or criminal backgrounds. She chose to launch her book at Palermo's infamous Malaspina juvenile prison, widely acknowledged as a breeding ground for tomorrow's criminals. Flanked by magistrates investigating the deaths of Falcone and Borsellino, Rosaria faced the row of hardened young criminals and told them: "You must change your way of life, hold on to more concrete values, and we on the outside are ready to help you. What kind of kick can a hold-up or a mugging give you? Don't you understand that you have the right to a more dignified existence?" As some of the youngsters jeered at her words, Rosaria quipped: "I see some of you laughing. But I don't think you've ever laughed in your entire life."

At the end of the session, when Rosaria spoke of her murdered husband Vito, some of the young delinquents were seen to wipe away a tear or two and several broke out in applause.

Not everyone has welcomed the stand taken by the young widow. In a climate where omertà — the code of silence which has always protected the Mafia — has become a way of life, some people have told Rosaria her outbursts are ill-advised and urged her to keep quiet. "But I don't accept that," said Rosaria. "They are wrong to say such things to me. I loved my husband and I won't forget. There are people who are afraid, who don't want to expose themselves, who beg me not to speak, without realising that in doing so they are virtually asking me to forget."

Cheered by the spate of recent arrests, and by the growing number of mafiosi who have turned state's evidence and cooperated with police, Rosaria claims the Cosa Nostra ("Our Thing" as the network is known to its members) is on a losing streak, mainly, she says, because the ordinary people are no longer willing to tolerate its tyranny. Said Rosaria: "I understood that the day that even the children of Corleone came out into the street with their schoolteachers to protest, shouting that they no longer wanted to be ashamed of their home town."

The protest referred to by Rosaria

happened last year, when several hundred children from the Sicilian hill town of Corleone, the birthplace of Mafia chiefs such as Salvatore "Totò" Riina and Bernardo Provenzano, took the unprecedented step of staging a public rebellion against the men who had besmirched their town's name.

The Mafia's biggest mistake, says Rosaria, was in killing Falcone. The crime stunned Italians on the mainland and many Sicilians, including some sectors of the criminal world. The massacre sowed the first seeds of rebellion that was to lead to a new mood of cooperation. "By shutting five mouths, they opened 50 million others," said Rosaria.

In spite of the power the Cosa Nostra undoubtedly still wields, and the bloodshed it is still capable of causing, this young Sicilian woman remains convinced it can be beaten. She recalls the optimism of Judge Paolo Borsellino, who spoke in positive terms, even though he was well aware of the danger to himself. "You'll see, Rosaria. One day this will be a beautiful land," he said to me not long before he was killed," she recalls. "We must work to make sure Borsellino's dream comes true" — World News Link.



Like this man, Vito Schifani, was a bodyguard and it cost him his life a year ago (WNL)

AMMAN BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL SUMMER SCHOOL

The ABS school is pleased to announce that it will be offering its eighth annual summer school from Saturday 26 June until Thursday 22 July. The programme will include a variety of academic, creative and sporting activities for children aged 4 to 17. In addition there will be special programmes in Math, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and computing for IGCSE and IB. For more information about a stimulating and enjoyable summer programme for your child please contact the School.

TEL: 845572, 847191, - Fax: 834603.
P. O Box: 441 Sweileh.
Director of Summer School
Abdel Razzaq Najjar.



Cypriot leaders to study confidence-building steps

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali proposed Monday that leaders of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities begin talks here this week by discussing placing part of the uninhabited resort town of Varosha under U.N. administration and reopening Nicosia Airport, also under U.N. control.

Both have ceased to function since Turkish troops landed in the north of the island in 1974, after a coup in Nicosia backed by the military junta then ruling Greece.

Dr. Ghali was addressing a closed-door session attended by Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş, and by representatives of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the United States, Russia, Britain, China and France.

The secretary-general was accompanied by his new special representative for Cyprus, former Canadian Prime Minister Joe Clark.

The meeting, which lasted about 40 minutes, marked the start of a new round of long-running negotiations aimed at reuniting the divided island in a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation.

The talks have so far concentrated on a so-called "set of ideas" and map which Dr. Ghali presented to both sides last summer. The most recent negotiating round ended inconclusively last November.

According to a copy of the secretary-general's opening remarks, obtained by Reuters, he proposed that, before returning to the "set of ideas" and map, they focus first on measures designed to foster confidence between the two communities.

He suggested they begin by discussing two "especially significant and related" issues:

A. Placing an important area of Varosha — the former Greek Cypriot resort adjoining Famagusta — under U.N. administration "and it's becoming a special area for bi-communal contact and commerce open equally to both sides," and

B. The reopening, also under U.N. administration, of Nicosia Airport "for passenger and cargo traffic from and to both sides."

'U.S. tried to topple Qadhafi with Iraqi aid'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States sent Libyan rebels to train in Iraq in the 1980s so they could overthrow Muammar Qadhafi, former government officials said Monday.

The operation was part of a developing intelligence relationship between Iraq and the United States that was to include over time the passing of U.S. satellite information to help Baghdad in its eight-year war with Iran, the official said.

The full extent of the cooperation has not been revealed. But the Bush administration, defending itself against a storm of congressional criticism following the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, left the impression it was limited to U.S. help for Iraq against Iran.

The decision to send several hundred Libyans for training in Iraq served several purposes, said former Reagan White House aide Howard Teicher in an interview.

Iraq wanted to get even with Colonel Qadhafi for supporting Iran in the war, he said, and Egypt wanted to encourage U.S. support for Iraq to block Iran from winning and spreading Muslim fundamentalism through the region.

Also, said Mr. Teicher, the United States wanted to topple Col. Qadhafi, accusing him of terrorism and attempts to destabilize his neighbors.

The Libyan exiles attempted a coup against Col. Qadhafi in May 1984, but it was immediately crushed, Mr. Teicher recounted.

The secretary-general said these two confidence-building measures "carry concrete benefits to each side and to Cyprus as a whole."

Placing part of Varosha under U.N. administration would benefit Greek Cypriots and others who would be able to reclaim possession of their properties, he said.

At the same time the Turkish Cypriot side would derive important benefits from "guaranteed opportunities to engage freely in business in the area and from the fact that foreign tourists will be able to pass through the area to the northern part of the island and to stay there."

The Turkish Cypriots proclaimed their own state in the north of the island in 1983 with Mr. Denktaş as president but it is recognised only by Turkey and is the object of a boycott by the Greek Cypriots.

Dr. Ghali continued: "With the reopening, under United Nations administration, of Nicosia International Airport, located in the United Nations protected area and deserted since 1974, passengers and cargo could access freely through the airport to and from each side."

"The transforming impact of this measure on the economic situation of the Turkish Cypriot community is clear," he added.

The deputy U.N. representative for Cyprus, Gustave Feissel, who recently took up residence in Nicosia, has discussed both issues with the two leaders during the past month.

"It will be a principal objective of ours this week to finalise agreement on these important measures," the secretary-general said.

Dr. Ghali leaves New York next weekend on a lengthy trip to North Africa and Europe and the Cyprus talks are expected to continue only until the end of this week.

On Tuesday, Mr. Clerides and Mr. Denktaş were due to hold a joint meeting with senior U.N. officials including Mr. Clark, Mr. Feissel and Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Mark Ruffalo, in preparation for a meeting with Dr. Ghali later in the day.

In his book, "Twin Pillars to Desert Storm," a chronicle of U.S. policy in the Mideast from President Richard Nixon to President George Bush.

Another former official, who asked not to be named, said the plot involved a raid by seaborne commandos who fired rockets and machine guns towards a military barracks used by Col. Qadhafi.

The operation was crushed, and the estimated 15 rebels were killed in the raid or captured and later executed. The exiles were mostly students and dissidents living in Britain, Italy and other European countries, said Mr. Teicher.

The United States also trained other Libyans, captured in Chad when Libya invaded that country in the mid-1980s, to mount cross-border sabotage raids but failed to inflict much damage in Libya.

The Bush administration brought some 300 of these Libyan prisoners to the United States in 1991 after Chad evicted them.

Iraq's willingness to train Libyan exiles encouraged those in the administration who wanted improved ties with Baghdad, said Mr. Teicher, an opponent of the developing relationship.

The cooperation also strengthened those in the administration who argued that Iraq had stopped its support of "terrorism" and was proving it by its willingness to fight Libyan "terrorism," he said.



KADDOUMI IN BEIRUT: Lebanese Foreign Minister Farouk Kaddoumi (right) Tuesday welcomes a Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) team headed by Political Department head Farouk Kaddoumi (left) upon its arrival in Beirut from Damascus for talks on the peace process (AFP photo)

Security Council extends sanctions imposed on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council Monday decided to keep economic sanctions imposed on Iraq because Baghdad is seen as still not cooperating fully with the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire.

The sanctions bar all trade with Iraq, but allow it to import food, medicine and other humanitarian goods. But with no legal foreign trade, Baghdad has little or no hard currency to buy food and medicine abroad.

At one of its periodic 60-day reviews of the comprehensive sanctions on Iraq, the council members saw no reason to relax the sanctions regime.

The decision came hours after reports circulated that the Iraqi government was massing troops and tanks in northern Iraq, raising fears of a renewed attack on Kurds in the region.

Iraq still refuses to recognise the border demarcated by U.N. surveyors between it and Kuwait, and last week boycotted the final meetings of the U.N. boundary commission that redraw the border.

U.S. officials are also investigating whether the government sent Iraqi agents into Kuwait to assassinate former President George Bush when he visited the emirate in late April to receive thanks for helping liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

The sanctions were imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990. Iraqi troops occupied the emirate for seven months until they were driven out by the U.S.-led allied coalition in the Gulf war.

Iraq has refused to sell \$1.6 billion in oil under strict U.N.

supervision to generate funds for Iraqi relief programmes, war reparations and to pay for U.N. programmes to dismantle Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Iraq says the restrictions on the oil sale violate its sovereignty. The Security Council, meeting behind closed doors, formally decided Iraq had not fulfilled requirements of all the Gulf war resolutions, which centre on demolishing Baghdad's weapons of mass destruction.

"We have decided there is no justification for amending them in any way," Britain's ambassador, Sir David Hannay, said.

In answer to questions, he said that some of the delegations who spoke at the meeting mentioned "the continuing repression of both Kurds and Shiite minorities in Iraq."

But he indicated there was no discussion of unconfirmed reports that Iraq is preparing to attack Kurdish enclaves in the north.

Later, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said that the U.N. ambassadors of the United States, Britain, France and Russia warned Iraq March 26 that "any provocative actions would receive a firm and united response, and that warning remains in effect."

Mr. Boucher said Iraq had had considerable forces in the north for some time. He declined to discuss the situation further.

But a senior State Department official said there had been no dramatic new developments since March 26 and described a New York Times report as "hyped, although we continue to have concerns."

Quoting Western diplomats in

the region and Kurdish military commanders, the New York Times said Iraqi forces have moved long-range artillery, tanks and trucks to the front in the last few days, concentrating their buildup in areas south of Erbil and Sulaimaniyah. The Times said an Iraqi assault against those Kurdish areas could come as early as the first week in June.

Earlier, prior to a meeting with Foreign Minister Yousef Ben Alawi of Oman, Secretary of State Warren Christopher told a questioner there had been "some preliminary reports with respect to Iraqi troop movements."

"What I would say to Saddam Hussein is that we intend to enforce the United Nations resolutions with great resoluteness. He knows what he has to do," Mr. Christopher said, "and we'll be watching very carefully for any changes in that situation that might call for further action by the United States."

The United Nations meanwhile, warned that aid for the Kurds in northern Iraq as well as for needy people suffering the effects of the trade embargo in the rest of the country, will be brought to an end within weeks unless Western countries provide more money and supplies.

In a letter sent to the president of the Security Council early last week, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali warned that unless the United Nations received more money and food from donor countries, he would be forced to suspend the whole relief programme in Iraq as well as in the Kurdish-controlled northern areas by the end of May 1993 or mid-June 1993.

MEA urges Washington to end ban

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon stands to lose up to \$100 million this summer because of a U.S. ban on air ticket sales to Beirut, the chairman of Lebanon's national carrier says.

Abdul Hamid Fakhoury, president of Middle East Airlines (MEA), said an estimated 30,000 Lebanese Americans were expected to fly to Lebanon in the summer season.

"Unfortunately, the American administration banned us from providing reservations through Europe for passengers in the United States destined for Beirut," Mr. Fakhoury said at a news conference at MEA headquarters at Beirut airport.

"This is going to strip the MEA from \$15 million and Lebanon from up to \$100 million because the 30,000 Lebanese Americans are not going to be able to make it back to the motherland," Mr. Fakhoury added.

He was referring to a recent U.S. crackdown on MEA ticket sales in the United States to Beirut in violation of a U.S. travel ban to Lebanon.

Mr. Fakhoury said MEA was willing to pay the fine of \$1,000 for each day its office in New York has issued tickets for Beirut, a sum of around \$3 million.

"We have complied with ban and have stopped MEA flights to the United States. But we never thought the ban also includes those Lebanese wishing to travel back to their motherland," Mr. Fakhoury said.

The American ban on Lebanon dates back to the 1985 hijacking of a TWA jetliner to Beirut, where more than 30 American passengers were held hostage for 17 days and a U.S. navy diver was killed.

Mr. Fakhoury said, nevertheless, MEA continued to issue bookings for Beirut-bound passengers via Europe by printing the number of the Beirut-London Flight 202 on the ticket plus Damascus.

"We have always thought the American administration, which was aware of our operation, did not mind this procedure and thus kept silent about it for seven years," Mr. Fakhoury said.

He appealed to the United States to reconsider the ban and allow Lebanese Americans to travel to Lebanon before the summer season beginning in June.

British politician alleges bid to cover Iraq scandal

LONDON (R) — British intelligence knew Iraq was developing a supergun years before parts were stopped on their way to Baghdad, a former politician and key informant in the British arms-for-Iraq scandal said Monday.

Sir Hal Miller also alleged at a judicial inquiry into the affair that a top government official tried to cover up the scandal — a charge that was promptly denied.

Mr. Miller said he told intelligence officers in 1988 that Iraq was having "missile tubes" manufactured by a British engineering firm. His intelligence source had replied that his information "confirmed everything they knew," he added.

Yet apparently nothing was done to stop the huge gun being prepared by British engineering firms until barrel sections were intercepted on their way to Iraq in April 1990 — four months

before Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Mr. Miller also accused former Attorney General Sir Patrick Mayhew of trying to prevent evidence about the case from coming to court. He said Mr. Mayhew, now Northern Ireland secretary, urged him not to produce documents that could have cleared businessmen accused of illegally exporting weapons to Iraq.

"Ministers were prepared to see businessmen wrongly convicted rather than tell how much they knew about our arms trade with Iraq," Mr. Miller said.

Mr. Mayhew denied Mr. Miller's allegations.

"I have never urged Sir Hal Miller or anyone else to withhold evidence which would advantage a defendant," he said in a statement. He offered to testify to the inquiry.

Mr. Miller, a long-time leading

conservative with close links to defence equipment firms, has been a key figure in inquiries into the supergun scandal. But this is the first time he has publicly said he told intelligence about the gun in 1988.

Prime Minister John Major ordered the current inquiry by Lord Justice Scott after a fresh case of arms exports to Iraq exploded last November when three British businessmen from the Iraqi-owned engineering firm Matrix Churchill were acquitted of illegally selling arms-making machine tools to Iraq.

Their trial collapsed when the court accepted the government may have relaxed its own arms export rules and encouraged arms and arms-related sales to Iraq.

The government acknowledged to the 1991-92 parliamentary inquiry that guidelines written in 1948 and published in 1985 were

amended with the end of the Iran-Iraq war in 1988. They were eased to cover only "lethal" equipment of direct and significant aid to either country, thus exempting machine tools.

But the Miller evidence adds to a belief by many politicians that intelligence services knew more than they have let on about the supergun and arms sales in general.

"If Sir Hal Miller's comments are right then this was certainly not a coup, it would be a conspiracy," said opposition Labour Party politician Jim Cousins, who took part in the inquiry. Mr. Cousins later called for Mayhew to resign.

Foreign Office Minister of State Baroness Chalker said in response to a question in parliament Monday that no lethal defence equipment had been supplied to Iran since 1979.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

S. Arabia criticises Western media

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia's interior minister, Prince Nayef Ben Abdul Aziz, has sharply attacked Western media for focusing on human rights in the kingdom. Prince Nayef, quoted by the Qatari News Agency Monday, said Western media had malicious aims against the Arab World and against Saudi Arabia in particular, where he said simple events were exaggerated. He said Saudi Arabia practised Islamic law and respected human rights more than European and Western countries, which he said were attacking Saudi Arabia's record. "We are an Islamic state fully implementing the Islamic Sharia law in all matters. This does not suit some of the Western media, who inflame any simple or normal event in Saudi Arabia," he said. "Where are the Palestinians' human rights, and where are the principles of human rights which are violated daily in Bosnia-Herzegovina?" he asked. "Why do the Western agencies not deal with these cases?" The Qatari News Agency report said Prince Nayef was speaking at a news conference Sunday evening in Mina, a few kilometres from the Holy City of Mecca. His comments are reported by the agency made no reference to Saudi Arabia's crackdown on a group of ultra-conservative religious figures who set up the kingdom's first human rights group earlier this month.

Fundamentalists jailed in Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — A Tunisia court handed down prison sentence of seven years Tuesday on 46 Islamic fundamentalists accused of forming a guerrilla group, lawyers said Tuesday. The defendants were arrested in 1991. They denied during their week-long trial belonging to the Commandos of Sacrifice, an offshoot of the banned Islamist movement Al Nahda. Three were sentenced to seven years and 43 to seven years and two months. Sixteen others tried in their absence were given sentences of 11 years, the lawyers said. Nearly 300 Muslim fundamentalist leaders and activists were tried last year for plotting against the state and sentenced to jail terms ranging from a few years to life.

Ex-Italian diplomat going to Sudan as U.N. envoy

UNITED NATIONS (R) — An Italian diplomat was appointed Monday as special U.N. envoy to Sudan where a million people risk starvation resulting from a 10-year-old civil war. Vieri Trakler, a former U.N. ambassador from Italy, intends to visit the country and neighbouring nations shortly to focus international attention on Sudan's humanitarian crisis. A U.N. statement said Mr. Trakler, who would also go to Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda, would consult with Nigerian authorities, host country for the recent abortive peace talks between the Sudanese government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

Iranian police nab highway robbers

TEHRAN (R) — Police have arrested four thieves who stopped a businessman on an airport highway after he returned from Germany and robbed him of about \$120,000 cash, a newspaper said. The robbers, posing as security agents, stopped the Iranian businessman's taxi on the highway, told him he was under investigation and took him to their car, making off with his case containing 162,000 German marks (\$100,000) and \$20,000 in cash, it said. Police tracked down the robbers by watching street corner foreign exchange dealers. A fraction of the cash plus large amounts of rials were recovered from the robbers who said they bought two cars with the rest of the money, Kayhan said. Thieves face long jail terms in Iran.

World Bank readies Yemen education project

SANAA (R) — The World Bank is preparing a project to improve the quality of secondary education in Yemen, a senior bank official said Monday. Senior specialist Youssef Saran said the six-year project, costing between \$30 million and \$60 million, would also improve female access to secondary education and establish a community college system oriented to the labour market. Mr. Saran, who is leading a team in Sanaa, said the World Bank was expected to decide in October on final approval for the project and how much financial support to offer. He said the World Bank has since 1972 loaned former South Yemen and North Yemen over \$175 million to cover 14 educational and health projects.

Bomb explodes at Iran newspaper office

TEHRAN (R) — A bomb exploded at the office of Ettelaat, Iran's second biggest newspaper publishing group, a newspaper reported. Salam newspaper said the blast hit the ground floor of the Ettelaat office in central Tehran last week. It did not say if it caused any casualties or damage. Ettelaat editors declined to comment on the report. Windows of the Ettelaat office were smashed during a protest last month by a group of "Basijis," paramilitary volunteers in the Revolutionary Guards Corps, who took offence at an issue of Ettelaat's weekly magazine. Salam said the explosion which occurred after midnight was probably linked to the same row which started when the weekly printed the picture of a Revolutionary Guard commander killed during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war next to a story headlined: "I have become mentally disturbed." The weekly denied the layout was intentional and apologised for the slip. Ettelaat is the sixth Iranian publication whose office has come under attack by bombs or demonstrators for various reasons in the past two years.

Saudi collect \$95 million to help Bosnians

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia has collected over \$95 million in private and official donations to help Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the official Saudi Press News Agency said Monday. The agency, quoting an announcement by a Saudi government charitable organisation, said the organisation collected 241.8 million riyals (\$64.5 million) from private donations and 114.6 million (\$30.5 million) from government and official sources. It said most of the aid, coordinated by the higher committee for the collection of donations, was given directly to the Muslim government of Bosnia-Herzegovina. It said the committee was also supporting the feeding of hundreds of refugees at Muslim camps in the Croatian cities of Zagreb and Split. It was also organising health care and education for the refugees, the agency said. The committee is run by Prince Salman Ben Abdul Aziz, governor of Riyadh and brother of King Fahd.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 L'histoire des Climats
19:00 News in French
19:15 French Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Chance in a million
21:00 Soccer Match
22:00 News in English
22:30 Second Half of Match
23:00 The Gravy Train

PRAYER TIMES

03:56 Fajr
05:23 (Sunrise) Duha
12:32 Dhur
16:13 Asr
19:37 Maghreb
21:08 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifich, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 71331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 71261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assam International Church Tel. 625256
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823624, 654932
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Some clouds will appear at various altitudes and winds will be westerly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 15 / 27
Aqaba 22 / 35
Dahur 15 / 31
Jordan Valley 20 / 33

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 20 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Imran 612232
Dr. Nidal Al-Masri 751672
Dr. Yousef Rashid 986301
Dr. Mukhlis Mazaheh 820425
Fire pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 78336
Al Asom pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 644945
Sundani pharmacy 631600
Nairokh pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630441
Rescue 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 773121
Highway Police 864062
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Price Complaints 605800
Water and Sewerage 661176
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 63101
Repairs 623101
Abdell Telephone Repairs 601101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 623101

COMPANY

RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81381/332
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Abdell Maternity, J. Amn 62441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhan, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmoukani 664171/4
Shamsani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 84945
Al-Mustafa Hospital 567227/8
The Islamic, Abdell 666127/37
Al-Abdi, Abdell 664164/6
Islamic, Al-Muhajiroon 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashraf 75111/26
Army, Shmoukani 89161/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983233
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hilma Modern Hospital (09)990990
Pleasant Bazaar Hospital (02)75555

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:00 Adca (RJ)
06:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00 Aqaba (RJ)
10:00 Jeddah (RJ)
10:10 Paris, Damascus (RJ)
10:20 Beirut (RJ)
10:45 Larnaca (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, Larnaca (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:45 Dubai (AZ)
10:00 Cairo (MS)
11:30 Sanaa (YV)
11:30 Jeddah (SU)
11:45 Tunis, Cochin (RJ)
10:20 Paris, Damascus (RJ)
10:20 Beirut (RJ)
10:45 Larnaca (RJ)
12:00 Vienna, Larnaca (RJ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:30 Rome (RJ)
11:30 London, Berlin (RJ)
11:30 Tunis, Cochin (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)
20:30 Colombo (RJ)
21:15 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)
21:15 New Delhi (RJ)
21:45 Damascus (RJ)
22:00 London (RJ)
22:00 Frankfurt (RJ)
22:45 Sanaa (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:45 Beirut (ME)
07:00 Rome (AZ)
09:15 Beirut (ME)
10:30 Cairo (MS)
12:00 Jeddah (SU)
12:45 Karachi (PI)

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Uppercase price in fils per kg
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Banana (Mukammal) 620 / 620
Beans 540 / 450
Carrot 70 / 40
Cauliflower 150 / 90
Cucumbers (large) 250 / 180
Cucumbers (small) 240 / 180
Eggplant 300 / 180
Garlic 260 / 200
Grapesfruit 240 / 180
Lemon 80 / 50
Marrow (large) 50 / 30
Marrow (small) 30 / 20
Mint 150 / 100
Onion (dry) 80
Onion (green) 230 / 160
Orange 280 / 180
Pepper (hot) 400 / 250
Pepper (green) 450 / 350
Potato 210 / 160
Tomato 220 / 200
Spinach 250 / 200

Iran seeks foreign funds for second trade zone

DUBAI (R) — Iran is seeking foreign investment in a second free trade zone which it says could form a base for firms targeting Iranian and regional markets.

Kerman Development Organisation Managing Director Mohammad Yazdanpanah, quoted by the UAE newspaper Al-Ahram Tuesday, said Sir-

jan Trade Zone in Kerman province would help firms win business in Turkey, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the Central Asian Republics.

The newspaper said Mr. Yazdanpanah was speaking while on a visit to Dubai to try to attract investment.

He said Sirjan represented the opening up of Iran to foreign

investment and that the Iranian government planned to turn the zone into a 1,500-hectare (3,700-acre) industrial and commercial hub offering 20-year tax exemptions and renewable 35-year long leases to foreigners.

"Sirjan is a great location because it has ... excellent road and rail links. Bandar Abbas, Iran's

most active port, is only 300 kilometres away," Mr. Yazdanpanah was quoted as saying.

He said 280 hectares (690 acres) had been set aside for light industrial units, 460 hectares (1,136 acres) for warehousing, and 100 hectares (247 acres) for trade and commercial activities.

He said an international airport was also being built.

Mr. Yazdanpanah is also managing director of Iran's Qeshm Island Free Zone, a few miles offshore from Bandar Abbas.

He said investment in Qeshm Island, which Iran's IRNA news agency said in January had reached \$10 billion, had been restricted mainly to developing tourism and light industries.

Industry at half capacity

Algerian output falls

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian industry, squeezed of foreign exchange to buy raw materials or spare parts for ageing machinery, operated at only 53.8 per cent of capacity on average last year.

The drop, from 57 per cent capacity use in 1991, resulted in a fall of 1.6 per cent in total industrial production, according to figures released by the National Statistics Office (ONS).

Algeria, relies on its oil and gas sector to earn more than 90 per cent of its foreign exchange.

The official news agency APS, reporting the figures, said:

"In the hydrocarbon sector, growth was only 0.56 per cent, a clear retreat compared with the two previous years (2.05 per cent in 1991 and 4.93 per cent in 1990), because, according to the ONS, of falls in production in refining and liquefying gas."

The North African country last

year earned some \$11 billion from oil and gas exports. Over 70 per cent of the income went in repaying and servicing foreign debt estimates at \$25 billion.

Algeria plans to spend over \$1 billion on modernising gas installations and is also building two new pipelines — one through Tunisia to Italy, one through Morocco to Spain — to boost its exports.

Its best operating sector in 1992 was food and farming, at 73 per cent capacity, followed by building and construction at 66 per cent, APS said.

At the bottom end, chemicals and plastics ran at just 37.5 per cent capacity, leather and shoes at 36.5 and wood and paper at 22.6 per cent.

The government, trying to move from nearly three decades of centralised socialist management to a free market liberal economy, has said that it will do

all it can to protect jobs but some companies may be allowed to go to the wall.

Unemployment, officially 1.2 million or some 21 per cent of the workforce, is seen as one of the destabilising factors in the country which has been hit by Muslim fundamentalist unrest and has been under a state of emergency since February 1992.

On Monday, government spokesman Messoud Ait Chaalal told local journalists the authorities planned "important and decisive measures" for local authorities firms, probably from the end of June.

"We will do all we can to save these companies," he said, in remarks quoted by APS. "If circumstances demand it, we will have to close certain of them," although their workers would be rehired or moved to other firms, he added.

Oman set to begin huge gas project in '94

AMMAN (R) — Oman plans to begin natural gas and petrochemical projects worth \$10 billion next year, the Omani minister of commerce and industry has said.

"We hope after having completed the detailed feasibility studies on the LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) project and petrochemicals project to start next year," the minister, Maqbool Ali Sultan, told Reuters in a recent interview.

Mr. Sultan said gas discoveries in the past two years raising estimated reserves to 17 trillion cubic feet from nine trillion had provided the impetus for plans to proceed with the projects.

He said the planned \$9 billion gas liquefaction complex was a joint venture between the Royal Dutch Shell Group, French and Japanese companies and Oman, which holds a 51 per cent share.

Mr. Sultan did not give figures on the gas liquefaction plant's

expected capacity. The plant would take three to four years to complete. He said the site was still undecided.

A \$700 million petrochemical project to be built in eastern Oman would have an estimated annual capacity of 300,000 tons of polypropylene and polyethylene and is scheduled for completion in two years, he said.

Mr. Sultan said oil production, which generates about 78 per cent of government revenue, is expected to average around 750,000 barrels a day in 1993.

Oman's large upstream and downstream projects are in line with other oil-rich Gulf states moves towards more diversified economies less dependent on crude oil.

"The area has large quantities of gas, and industries like petrochemicals which depend on gas... hold the future for the

region," Mr. Sultan said.

"It's why Oman is heading in this direction," he said.

He said oil exports rose 10.8 per cent in 1992 to 1.745 billion barrels (\$4.5 billion) from 1.575 billion barrels (\$4.1 billion) in 1991. Non-oil exports rose by 22 per cent to 96.7 million barrels from 79.1 million barrels in the same period.

Mr. Sultan said major port expansion projects to double existing capacity were under way or

planned to handle increased exports when the projects come on stream in the late 1990s.

He said work had already begun on a 78 million expansion of Oman's main commercial Qaboos port in Muscat to be completed next year. Expansion of Raysut port in the south was in the works and a study for a major port in the north was also being undertaken, he said.

Oman was also poised to boost its position as major transit centre

in the region, particularly for neighbouring Yemen and for Iran, Mr. Sultan said.

"Our future thinking is to capture a chunk of the growing regional reexport trade especially to Yemen and Iran with whom we have very good relations," he said.

He said reexports, primarily to the United Arab Emirates and Iran, rose to 253 million barrels in 1992 from 165 million barrels in 1991.

Asia becomes Australia's major source of migrant professionals

SYDNEY (AFP) — Asian countries led by Hong Kong have overtaken Europe as Australia's main source of professional and managerial migrants, according to a study of immigration patterns released this week.

Even Australia's traditional sources of migrants, Britain and Ireland, have been eclipsed in the latest Bureau of Immigration Research study which shows that three times more professionals and managers came from Asia than Europe in 1991-92.

The breakdown was 61 per cent from Asia, 23 per cent from Europe, including Britain and the

former Soviet Union, six per cent from Oceania which includes another traditional source, New Zealand, and three per cent from North America.

The study shows immigration patterns to be well in step with the Australian government's desire for closer economic integration with Asia.

During the financial year ended June 30, 1992, Hong Kong supplied 5,006 migrants in the top occupational categories, followed by 1,688 from India, 1,207 Taiwanese, 1,191 mainland Chinese, 976 Malaysians, 686

Filipinos and 527 Vietnamese.

Excluding those not in the workforce, such as wives and children, 46 per cent of the settlers who arrived here from Asian countries during the year were professionals, managers and administrators.

In terms of individual countries, Hong Kong pushed Britain into second place, Britain contributing 2,270 professionals, while 944 came from New Zealand, 711 from the former Soviet Union and 495 from the United States.

However, the study showed that Britain remained the top source for para-professionals,

tradespeople and clerks, providing 27 per cent of the total intake last year.

The results of the study were also a reflection on Europe's changing political geography, with total arrivals from the old Soviet Union reaching more than 2,000 last financial year from only 150 eight years ago.

During the same period, the total number of settlers arriving from Northeast Asia — including China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea and Taiwan — jumped from 4,668 in 1983-84 to 21,473 last year.

Trinidad announces steps to cushion impact of floating currency

PORT-OF-SPAIN (AFP) — To cushion the impact of rising prices caused by floating Trinidad's currency, Prime Minister Patrick Manning announced that the poorest Trinidadians would be exempted from income tax. In an nationwide address, Prime Minister Patrick Manning announced that individuals with an annual taxable income of \$2,800 annually or less would not have to pay income tax. The measure will benefit 22,000 taxpayers. Mr. Manning also announced that the school feeding programme would be expanded starting in September to feed 80,000 children and that retirees would receive a 15 per cent increase in the food allowance component of their pensions. Mr. Manning said he was confident that in the medium- and long-term Trinidad's economy would be helped by floating the currency and removing foreign exchange controls. Since the Trinidad and Tobago dollar floated in April, it has remained virtually stable at 5.60 to one U.S. dollar.

Vietnam suffers from poor productivity and a wage 'headache'

HANOI (AP) — Vietnam has a definite allure for foreign firms seeking cheap labour, but investment promoters are worried that pressure for higher wages and poor worker productivity will wipe out that advantage.

The wages paid at factories making garments, shoes, and leather goods are making the country less competitive, says Vu Huy Hoang, a deputy director at Vietnam's State Committee for Cooperation and Investment.

Mr. Hoang said recently he fears Vietnam may lose jobs in these labour-intensive industries to countries like Indonesia and the Philippines.

"If we increase our wages and salaries, I think we lose our chance to attract investment," said Mr. Hoang, whose agency promotes and regulates foreign capital in Vietnam.

Vietnam currently requires joint venture businesses — those partly owned by foreigners — to pay unskilled workers at least \$35 a month in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. Outside these cities, the minimum wage is \$30.

Raymond Eaton, who chairs the Thailand-based Export Development Trading Corp., which buys Vietnamese garments, footwear, and handicrafts for overseas firms, said higher wages in these industries "will cripple them before they get off the ground."

Inadequate training and outdated equipment further hobble Vietnam in its effort to develop export industries and compete internationally.

The Vietnam Investment Review said in an April issue that only 65,000 of Vietnam's 200,000 garment workers are good enough to produce goods for export. It said Vietnamese clothing factories also lack enough technicians and engineers.

As a result, the newspaper reported, factories in Singapore and Thailand can manufacture twice as many garments as those in Vietnam. If worker output improved, Mr. Eaton said Vietnam could quadruple the value of its garment-export industry to \$1 billion.

Vietnam's goal of attracting

overseas investment can clash with its efforts to protect workers in joint ventures. Mr. Hoang said the result is a headache both for his agency and labour officials.

The official Vietnam News newspaper reported in April that workers at a joint venture factory in Ho Chi Minh City staged a strike earlier this year because they claimed the minimum wage was inadequate.

Mr. Eaton has warned Vietnamese officials about the danger in yielding to pressure for higher wages.

"It really isn't Indonesia they have to worry about," Mr. Eaton said. "It's China."

While Indonesia has a higher minimum monthly wage — about \$50 — it has more experience in producing goods that meet Western standards.

Chinese wages are comparable to Vietnam's, Mr. Eaton said, and its workers are at least as productive.

"The tension in Vietnam over wages and poor productivity are intertwined with the country's economic transformation since the late 1980s. As it embraces free enterprise and competes for Western investment, Vietnam has largely discarded the Marxist precept that workers should earn similar wages regardless of their abilities. Now, Vietnam's leaders have decided that worker incentives offer a more effective way to achieve growth and prosperity."

"I think it is a very positive tendency," Mr. Hoang said. "It must be done. It means government is encouraging hard workers."

Mr. Hoang said many workers now face unemployment, as company owners shut down inefficient operations. Employees accustomed to job security and fixed wages must adapt to a new economic reality.

These changes have in turn encouraged foreign investors. In 1988, the year after Vietnam decried its first laws on foreign investment, the government licensed 37 foreign-owned projects, worth \$363 million. In 1992, it licensed 198 enterprises, worth \$1.94 billion.

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	1.6335/45	Deutschmarks
	1.8298/308	Dutch guilders
	1.4693/703	Swiss francs
	33.59/61	Belgian francs
	5.5050/100	French francs
	1488/1491	Italian lire
	110.36/41	Japanese yen
	7.3040/140	Swedish crowns
	6.9020/120	Norwegian crowns
	6.2520/620	Danish crowns
One sterling	\$1.5355/65	
One ounce of gold	\$374.15/374.65	

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Bosnian Serbs batter Muslims as NATO debates strategy

BELGRADE (R) — Bosnian Serb rebels unleashed an artillery barrage Tuesday against a Muslim city packed with civilians, as European states in NATO offered warplanes to help protect "safe areas."

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic meanwhile assured Russian envoy Vitaly Churkin that Belgrade has curtailed military supplies to the rebels to pressure them to accept an international peace plan.

U.N. officials said Serb forces launched a shelling offensive against Maglaj in north Bosnia, threatening tens of thousands of trapped civilians.

The attack coincided with a meeting in Brussels of NATO defence ministers on a new Western policy to contain the conflict in Bosnia.

They met to discuss how to protect Muslim enclaves designated as "safe areas" with troops and air power and heard offers of warplanes from some European member states.

Muslim-controlled Bosnian radio said the shelling of Maglaj continued Tuesday for the tenth

straight day and said Serb artillery attacked the nearby Brcko area.

Bosnian Serbs countered that the Serb villages of Gornja Paklenica, Jabucic Polje and Strijezvac near Maglaj were attacked by Muslim artillery, the Bosnian Serb News Agency (SRNA) reported.

Bosnian Muslims and Croats fought each other in the south Bosnia city of Mostar overnight after a week-old joint command fell apart over the issue of control of civilian police, Croatian radio reported Tuesday morning.

Small arms fire and occasional detonations were heard at dawn after Muslim forces launched abortive infantry attacks to break Croatian defence lines, it said.

A U.N. Protection Force spokesman in Sarajevo said Tuesday that central Bosnia, recently the site of fierce Croat-Muslim fighting was quiet but tense with three mortars falling near Kiseljak and sniping in Vitez.

But Bosnian radio reported Croat artillery and infantry "provocations" overnight near Jablanica.

Moscow's envoy Mr. Churkin told reporters after meeting Mr. Milosevic in Belgrade: "Milosevic has assured me that the decision (to seal the borders) ... has been observed," he added: "There were a couple of doubtful cases, but they were explained to me."

Mr. Milosevic, previously seen in the West as a key backer of the Bosnian Serbs, made an about-turn last month as U.N. sanctions started to bite and threw his weight behind a peace plan drawn up by international mediators Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance.

He promised to cut off military support to Bosnian Serbs and seal off borders except for humanitarian aid.

Mr. Churkin and Mr. Milosevic discussed how to "generate new momentum and bring about a settlement in Bosnia," as Bosnia rivals fought battles across the beleaguered republic.

Fighting picked up again between Muslims and Croats in Mostar and the Bosnian Serbs' pounding of Maglaj prompted fear by U.N. aid workers that another refugee catastrophe was

in the making. Mr. Churkin, who arrived in Belgrade Monday, failed to sway Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic and Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic to allow U.N. observers on their frontier as urged in the current international strategy to end the civil war.

The United States, Russia and key European allies agreed Saturday on a process that would include possible use of U.S. air power to protect Muslim safe havens in Bosnia.

Observers on the Bosnian border would ensure Yugoslavia, or Serbia, did not ship weapons to Serbs in Bosnia.

The Muslim-led Bosnian government has rejected the allied strategy as "totally unacceptable," and called on the U.N. Security Council to implement instead the nine-month-old Vance-Owen peace plan.

The plan would create 10 Bosnian provinces roughly along ethnic lines and a central government in which the three ethnic groups would share power. The Muslims and Croats accepted this plan, but Serbs rejected it.



The bodies of two victims lie in the parking lot of the Guadalajara Airport after they were killed during a shootout between drug traffickers. Seven people were killed including Guadalajara's Cardinal.

at Juan Jesus Posadas Ocampo and his driver, when their car apparently got caught in the crossfire (AFP photo)

Mexican cardinal killed in gun battle

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (R) — The Roman Catholic cardinal of Guadalajara and six other people were killed by gunfire when suspected drug traffickers battled each other at the Mexican city's airport, officials said.

Cardinal Juan Posadas Ocampo and other victims were caught in what witnesses said was a hail of bullets from AK-47 rifles and other weapons fired by up to two dozen people.

Jalisco state spokesman Armando Morquecho told Reuters that "the strongest belief" was that the fighting was between rival drug traffickers. "It was a very fierce fight. It looked like one group was waiting for the other," one person told reporters here.

Details of the incident remained unclear, but at a news conference, Jalisco Governor Carlos Rivera Aceves said that two suspects were in custody and others were being sought. Officials initially said six people died but later raised the death toll to seven.

The firefight began in the airport terminal and spilled out into the parking lot, where Cardinal Posadas and his driver died in their car, officials said.

Some reports said Cardinal Posadas was at the airport to meet a papal representative. Others, however, said he was catching a flight to Mexico City.

According to a government statement, 20 cars were struck by bullets and in several of them police found AK-47s, rifles, hand grenades and ammunition clips.

Television reports showed hundreds of people running out of the airport terminal and dozens of police officers and possibly civilians armed and running for cover.

The airport was shut down for three hours after the shooting.

The death of the 66-year-old Cardinal Posadas — one of only two cardinals in this heavily Catholic country of 85 million people — provoked an outcry from government and church officials against violence.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari travelled to Guadalajara

Monday night to attend services for Cardinal Posadas, whose coffin was to be put on display at the giant downtown cathedral.

On arriving at the airport, he said: "The Catholic people, the people of Mexico, are in mourning."

Mr. Salinas sent a letter to Pope John Paul II, who appointed Posadas Cardinal of Guadalajara two years ago, expressing regret and anger.

The entire society and the government that leads it have expressed our strongest repudiation and our greatest indignation," he said.

Felipe De Jesus Le-I Galvan, Archbishop of Monterrey, called for police to put an end to the wave of violence that grips our country.

Guadalajara, Mexico's second largest city, is considered a major drug-trafficking centre and has been the site of much drug-related violence in recent years. Its most notorious case involved the torture and murder of U.S. drug agent Enrique Camarena by drug kingpins in 1985.

Millions vote in Cambodian elections

PHNOM PENH (R) — Millions of Cambodians, including radical Khmer Rouge activists, have turned out to vote in U.N.-supervised elections, giving their backing to the country's first multi-party for decades.

Seventy per cent of registered voters had cast ballots by the time polls closed Monday night, the second day of a six-day national poll to restore democracy after decades of war and civil strife.

"What is so good is that Cambodians just went out and showed they wanted to vote," said a Western diplomat in Phnom Penh.

The Maoist Khmer Rouge, which refused to run in the elections saying they favoured its arch-enemies in the Phnom Penh government, began sending unarmed soldiers and officials out of the zones under its control to vote Tuesday.

Voters are electing members of a Constituent Assembly that will draft a constitution and then form a government.

The U.N. organisers of the election said 3,318,314 Cambodians had voted and others continued to stream to the polling stations Tuesday.

The 22,000-strong U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has spent 14 months registering 4,764,430 people to vote. The total bill for U.N. operations in Cambodia is expected to come to \$4 billion.

A senior UNTAC official said the Khmer Rouge, which had threatened to disrupt the elections, were trucking voters to the district of Thmar Pouk near the Thai border in Banteay Meanchey province.

"They want to make sure war-

lord Dien Del gets elected," he said.

General Dien Del leads the anti-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Armed Forces, which controls the area.

Dien Del, regarded as one of the ablest commanders in the U.S.-supported army of General Lon Nol in the mid-1970s, has long had a close relationship with General Prom Sout, the local Khmer Rouge chief, despite their opposite ideologies.

The Khmer Rouge put Cambodia under a reign of terror in the 1970s in which a million people died through execution, starvation, disease and forced labour.

U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said 200 Khmer Rouge soldiers came to the polls in Poi Pet on the Thai border, unarmed and with voter registration cards.

They are welcome and the doors of the polling station are wide open to them," he said.

U.N. officials and diplomats said the fact that Khmer Rouge was voting was a positive sign and a change of tactics by the guerrillas, who earlier had warned anyone taking part in the election would be joining an "undertaking of treason."

"Clearly it's a good sign," a second diplomat said. "But the (Khmer Rouge) voting is still on a reasonably small scale. The significance rests on how many more come in the next few days."

There were only scattered incidents of violence reported in the country Tuesday, no worse than on average days, the U.N. said.

U.N. officials who feared the polls might turn into a bloodbath had called in extra peacekeeping troops and equipment before the

start.

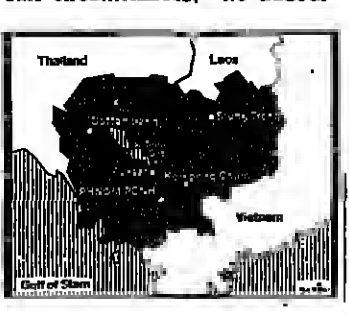
The United States said Monday it was encouraged by the voter turnout during the first two days of Cambodia's first election in decades.

"According to our reports from Cambodia, the mood of the people is enthusiastic and purposeful (and) many had walked for miles and lined up for hours to cast their ballots," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters.

"We applaud the hard work of the U.N. personnel in making this election possible, despite great difficulties, and we also want to express our admiration for the courage and determination of the Cambodian people to decide their own political future," Mr. Boucher said.

While expressing concern about the detention by the Khmer Rouge of two U.N. military personnel, who were later released unarmed, Mr. Boucher said that seemed to be the only major security incident.

"I think we're very encouraged by the turnout, by the enthusiasm with which the voting is being conducted, and we're very appreciative of the U.N. for having made it possible under very difficult circumstances," he added.



Serbs remove bodies of Sarajevo lovers

SARAJEVO (R) — Serb soldiers removed the bodies of two lovers under cover of darkness from the Sarajevo Bridge where snipers killed them a week ago, a Bosnian Serb official said Tuesday.

Veselko Gazibar, a Serb liaison officer with U.N. peacekeeping forces in the Bosnian capital, said the bodies of Bosko Brckic and Admira Ismic had been taken to the Serb suburb of Grbavica.

Muslim troops guarding the area around the bridge said earlier the bodies disappeared during the night and they did not know who was responsible.

The couple, both aged 25, were shot as they crossed a no man's land between Serb and Muslim controlled sectors while trying to escape from Sarajevo last Wednesday.

Muslim and Serb authorities had been arguing over which side had the right to recover the bodies of Brckic, who was Serb, and Ismic, who was Muslim.

Brckic and Ismic had been sweethearts since high school. Their bodies, locked in a last embrace, rested at the foot of the bridge over Sarajevo's Miljacka River.

Brckic's mother Radmila pleaded for the couple to be buried together.

"The world must know about this," she said, saying their "special love" had been snuffed out by killers in a crazy war.

Angola rebels claim capture of oil town

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — Fighting flared anew in northern Angola and UNITA rebels said they seized the strategic northern oil town of Soyo in a five-hour battle, just days after peace talks collapsed.

"We surrounded the town days ago and our troops launched the attack just before dawn, around 5 a.m. (0600 GMT). At 10 o'clock, Soyo fell," John Marques Kakumba, the UNITA representative for West Africa, said in Abidjan Monday.

The Ivorian capital was the venue for 40 days of U.N.-mediated talks that broke down Friday over UNITA's refusal to withdraw from captured towns and villages. It came two days after the United States formally abandoned the rebels it used to arm by recognising the former

Marxist government of President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos.

Andrew Young, the former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Sunday said President Bill Clinton's recognition of the government had disrupted the delicate balance of the talks, though they had been stalled for nearly two weeks on the same point.

Mr. Kakumba said the rebels had taken a number of prisoners in the fight for Soyo but gave no casualty figures. "We're doing mopping up operations at the moment," he said in a telephone interview.

Fighting that erupted again last October has been bloody. Some 50,000 people have died, 15,000 of them in the battle that won UNITA the central city of Huam-

bo. A total of 400,000 people have died in the 18-year conflict that began on the eve of the southern African nation's independence from Portugal in 1975.

Diplomats who spoke on condition of anonymity by telephone from the Angolan capital, Luanda, said UNITA began the attack over the weekend in Soyo, because oil production has kept the government's war effort afloat.

UNITA captured Soyo earlier, this year, then lost it to crack police troops called the "ninjas" who were replaced by inexperienced, poorly armed soldiers as the government became harder pressed, the diplomats said.

Its loss could foil government hopes of regaining full control of northern Angola and the coast, traditional areas of support for Mr. Dos Santos.

Archivist finds diary of Rasputin

ST PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) — An archivist said he had found the lost diary of Grigory Rasputin, the crude Siberian monk whose mystic power over the last Russian czar has been debated for decades.

"The historic value can't be doubted," said David Raskin, head of the Russian State Historical Archive's Department of Scholarship and Research.

The 12 pages of the dusty green notebook are filled with observations of philosophy, child-rearing and life at the court of Czar Nicholas II, who was overthrown in the 1917 revolution. Mr. Raskin, 57, was reluctant to divulge the contents of the diary because he hopes to publish it.

He said many of the archive's older workers had known of the diary for years, but had either misjudged its value, forgotten about it or had been discouraged by Rasputin's nearly illegible writing and atrocious grammar.

Mr. Raskin discovered the diary anew and set about translat-

ing it "from Rasputine into Russian" about a month ago.

Despite his peasant origins and rough manner, Rasputin was a favourite of Czar Nicholas' wife, Alexandra, thanks to his unexplained ability to stem the internal bleeding of her son, Alexei, who suffered from hemophilia.

Rasputin supposedly possessed hypnotic powers and he claimed to be able to work miracles. His influence on Czarina Alexandra was great, and she consulted him on various state matters, including the appointments and dismissals of high-ranking government officials.

Rasputin's mixture of religious fervour and sexual indulgence led many outside the court to grumble. Some newspapers at the time even speculated that he had seduced the czar's daughters.

Rasputin's tawdry reputation and growing political power helped tarnish the czar's reputation in the days leading to his overthrow. The church stepped in

at one point, denouncing Rasputin as a fraud and sending him back to Siberia temporarily.

In 1916, a group of right-wing patriots lured Rasputin to a St. Petersburg mansion where they poisoned him with tainted pastries, and then shot him when he didn't die. Still alive, Rasputin was thrown into the icy Neva River where he finally drowned.

Rasputin sometimes has been portrayed as a mad priest whose influence over the czar's family so irritated the Russian people that it led in part to the revolution of 1917 and the eventual rule of the Communists.

While all concede that Rasputin was extremely unpopular — his murder was celebrated in many circles — most historians argue he was a convenient scapegoat for the failings of the Romanov government and only an incidental factor in the revolution.

The Bolsheviks executed the czar and his family in 1918.

For once, the critics get it right at Cannes

CANNES (R) — For once, the critics at Cannes got it right.

The Piano and Farewell to My Concubine, joint winners of the festival's top Golden Palm Award, always looked like winners in a relatively thin year.

Jane Campion's *The Piano*, a passionate love story set in the wilds of 19th-century New Zealand, was the first Australasian film to win top honours at Cannes and the first directed by a woman.

Chen Kaige's *Concubine*, an epic story about actors at the Peking Opera over 50 years of this century, was the first Chinese film to win, and marked a general resurgence of Asian cinema.

Last year few critics backed the winning horse, Bille August's Swedish costume drama *The Best Intentions*, and saw its victory as a compromise choice.

Both 1993's winning films won wide critical acclaim in a festival year so short of new discoveries that many critics — and buyers — left town early in disappointment.

"Where is this year's *Strictly Ballroom*, this year's *Reservoir Dog*?" asked Canadian critic John Harkness, recalling two of 1992's Cannes surprise hits.

The most obvious success was British director Mike Leigh's dark comedy about social outcasts, *Naked*.

Brooding over themes of rootlessness and sexual violence and shot through with cynical humour, it earned star David Thewlis and Leigh awards for acting and directing.

Otherwise the festival was mostly a record of failures and disappointments.

The U.S. cinema, usually so dominant at Cannes, was a shadow of its usual self because new films by such distinguished directors as Martin Scorsese and Robert Altman were held back for the Venice Film Festival in September.



The Cannes Golden Palm is awarded jointly to Chinese Director Chen Kaige (2nd R) for his film *Farewell To My Concubine* and to New Zealand's Jane Campion (unseen) for *The Piano* at the end of

the 46th Cannes Film Festival. Sam Neill (2nd L), who plays in *The Piano* accepted the award for Campion (AFP photo)

Abel Ferrara's *Body Snatchers*, a remake of the 1950s horror classic, was the most booted film in competition despite a certain technical stylishness.

The best received U.S. film was *Falling Down*, a Michael Douglas vehicle about an unemployed defence worker who cracks and turns violent in downtown Los Angeles.

It was too mainstream in approach to stand much chance with the relatively high-brow critics at Cannes, however.

The happiest Americans Monday night were surely the executives at the Disney Corporation who last month bought out independent producers Miramax for \$50 million.

Miramax, which produced the offbeat Oscar-winning thriller *The Crying Game*, were also

behind both *The Piano* and *Farewell to My Concubine*.

The takeover has had a mixed reaction in the independent sec-

tor, with some seeing it as a sign of confidence in their work and others a threat to their continued artistic freedoms.

AWARDS

Here is a complete list of the Cannes Film Festival awards: Golden Palm (Best Film): *The Piano* (Jane Campion, Australia) and *Farewell To My Concubine* (Chen Kaige, China)

Grand Jury Prize: *Faraway, So Close* (Wim Wenders, Germany)

Best Director: Mike Leigh (*Naked*, Britain)

Best Actor: David Thewlis (*Naked*)

Best Actress: Holly Hunter (*The Piano*)

Jury Prize: *The Puppetmaster* (Hou Hsiao Hsien, Taiwan) and *Raining Stones* (Ken Loach, Britain)

Technical Prize: *Mazeppa* (Bartabas, France)

Best Short Film: *Coffee And cigarettes* (Jim Jarmusch, U.S.)

Golden Camera Award for Best First Film: *The Scent Of The Green Papaya* (Tran Anh Hung, France/Vietnam)

Special Mention For First Film: *Friends* (Elaine Proctor, South Africa/Britain)

Miss Universe meets Mexican president

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Dayana Torres of Puerto Rico, the newly-crowned Miss Universe 1993, has insisted that she won her crown fairly despite news reports that she was too young to enter and the contest was fixed. Rumours about the student and part-time model surfaced almost as soon as she was crowned Miss Universe Friday during a glittering ceremony at the National Auditorium. In a news conference Monday, Miss Torres denied accusations that she had altered her birth certificate to make it appear she was 18 years old, according to the Mexico City newspaper Novedades. Eighteen is the minimum age to enter the contest. Miss Torres beat out 78 other contestants from around the globe for the title. Over the weekend, the Colombian press reports implied that the contest was fixed and claimed that first runner-up Paula Betancourt of Colombia should have won. The Colombia daily *El Tiempo* Sunday quoted Mexico painter Jose Luis Cuevas as saying that eight of the nine contest judges had voted for Miss Betancourt. "By simple math, Paula Andrea should be the winner," the newspaper quoted him as saying. Neither Mr. Cuevas or anyone from the Miss Universe International office in Los Angeles was available to comment Monday. The debate over the crown even affected Miss Torres' visit to Mexico's president.

'Mussolini' boxes contain disappointment

GARGNANO, Italy (AP) — Four metal boxes recovered from the bottom of Lake Garda contained only disappointment for historians who had hoped they held Benito Mussolini's wartime correspondence. Mussolini's granddaughter was on hand Monday when the boxes were opened, only to reveal gunpowder believed tossed into the lake by German troops as they retreated north. The boxes were recovered by divers Sunday, just north of Salo, the lakeside city where Italy's World War II fascist leader had set up a puppet government. The search was launched after a carpenter told a local newspaper that he was ordered by fascist soldiers in the waning days of the war to build four waterproof boxes for documents. Alessandra Mussolini, a representative of the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement Party in parliament, had hoped the boxes would polish Mussolini's image and flew up from Rome for the opening. Seeing they contained nothing valuable, the former actress didn't lose the political moment.

Grandma's letter arrives — 16 years late

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysian grandmother Goh Ai Kew heard that her grandson had started bicycling to school and wrote him a letter warning him to be careful. The letter arrived last week, 16 years after it was mailed in 1977, the Star newspaper reported Tuesday. "We are glad that the letter reached its destination to the end," Yahaya Longchik, spokesman for the Malaysian Post Service, told the Star. "We believe we are a reliable company and even though it took a long time, we still managed to deliver it." The post office wants to display the letter in its museum, he said. "It was a touching letter in which she advised her grandson to take care of himself, study hard and eat good food." "At least I do not have to write to him any more as he is now successful and a mature adult," grandmother Goh told the newspaper. Yahaya said the post office didn't know why the letter had taken so long. "We will never know what really happened..." the newspaper quoted him as saying.

Everest guide rejects Hillary's criticism

WELLINGTON (R) — The man who conquered Mount Everest 40 years ago this week is wrong to suggest that the world's highest mountain has become cluttered with rubbish, New Zealand climber Gary Ball says. Everest Base Camp was recently cleared of more than five tonnes of trash. Mr. Ball said after returning from the mountain, where he is a guide. Nor are the estimated 1,000 empty oxygen bottles abandoned on the vast South Oji Plateau at the foot of the mountain an environmental problem, he said. Sir Edmund Hillary, the first person to set foot on the 29,028-foot (8,848 metre) summit, Moody bemoaned what he termed the environmental damage caused by the hundreds of climbers who gather at base camp every year and the thousands of tourists who trek to the mountain's foot.

IAAF keeps Ngugi and Krabbe under ban

STUTTGART (AP) — The world governing body of track and field Monday kept Kenyan runner John Ngugi and German sprinter Katrin Krabbe under suspension, effectively preventing them from competing at the World Outdoor Championship in August.

The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) Council, meeting in Stuttgart, made no decision on American sprinter Butch Reynolds, the 400-metre world record holder who is involved in a legal battle with the world body over a previous doping ban.

The IAAF wants Reynolds to drop his legal action against the world body. Reynolds was awarded \$27.3 million in damages against the IAAF by a U.S. judge.

Ngugi's four year ban for refusing to submit to a drug test had been revoked by the Kenyan Federation.

The IAAF council decided to send the case back to the Kenyan Federation, asking the national body to reimpose the four-year ban, said Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF general secretary.

The council also asked its legal experts to further study the case of Krabbe and two other German sprinters, Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr.

"The doping commission was convinced that there was a doping violation," Gyulai said.

The three German sprinters admitted taking the drug clenbuterol. The German Federation's legal commission reduced their four year bans to one year, and to eight months in Derr's case, on a legal technicality.



Banned German track stars Katrin Krabbe (centre), Grit Breuer (left) and Manuela Derr (AFP photo)

Until all the cases are settled, the athletes remain banned, Gyulai said.

"They have no chance of competing at the worlds," said one IAAF source, who requested anonymity.

The World Championship is scheduled for Aug. 14-22 in Stuttgart, and no final decision is expected on either case by then.

The next council meeting is Aug. 12 in Stuttgart, and IAAF sources said the council was unlikely to consider the doping cases then, but rather to leave them for a later date.

Ngugi, the five-time world cross country champion, had his ban lifted by the Kenyan Federation earlier this month. The 1988 Olympic 5,000-metre champion was suspended when he refused to take a drug test at his farm in Kenya.

The 29-year-old runner is a

solid and told officials that Kenyan military regulations require that an officer be present during the taking of urine samples.

The IAAF council heard a report from its doping commission, which felt "it was a clear case of refusal," Gyulai said. A refusal to submit to a drug test carries an automatic four-year ban, according to IAAF rules.

Narozhilenko's lawyers threaten IAAF with legal action

The London lawyers of Russian world champion hurdler Lyudmila Narozhilenko, whose estranged husband says he put steroids in her medication out of spite, threatened legal action against the governing body of track and field unless it discussed her case, an official said Monday.

IAAF general secretary

Gyulai, said the case won't be on the official agenda of the current IAAF council meeting as a separate item as requested by Narozhilenko's lawyers, but that it might be discussed by the doping commission.

Narozhilenko is seeking the lifting of her four-year ban for doping, after her husband and coach said he had put banned steroids into her prescribed medication.

Nikolai Narozhilenko said he put the banned substance into his wife's medication after learning that she planned to leave him for her Swedish manager.

The world 100-metre hurdles champion was banned after testing positive at a meet in France in February, where she matched her World Indoor record over 60 metres. She later broke the record three times at meets in Spain but the records have since been disallowed.

She initially blamed the positive test on the medication she was given by doctors after feeling sick during her mother's funeral shortly before the competition.

Tests revealed no trace of steroids in the medication and the Russian Federation imposed a four-year ban on Narozhilenko.

After receiving the statement from her husband, however, the federation asked the IAAF to consider her case. Narozhilenko and her Swedish manager have hired the London law firm of Allen and Overy to represent them.

A spokesman for Allen and Overy in London said the IAAF had an obligation to hear the case.

World Cup qualifying matches

Jordan takes on China today

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

JORDAN TAKES ON CHINA Wednesday in the fifth game of the Asian Group A qualification matches for the 1994 World Cup.

The Chinese team who have so far played only one match, thrashing Pakistan 5-0, will be aiming for a win to prove themselves capable of topping the group and securing eventual qualification.

Jordan, on the other hand, have 2 points in the overall standing from two draws with Yemen and Iraq. In their latest match against Iraq Monday, Jordanian players Jiryes Tadros and Yousef Al Amouri got serious injuries and they might miss the crucial match against China.

Fitness will prove to be the biggest problem of Jordan's team. Coach Alexander Maximov told a press conference after Monday's match that the players were reasonably tired in their match against Iraq, while their opponents were playing their first match.

In Monday's late match, Yemen scored an impressive 5-1 victory over Pakistan taking the lead for the moment.

Pakistan's Mohammad Tareq put his team in the lead when Iranian referee Hussein Askari awarded him the tournament's first penalty kick in the 11th minute.

Yemen's Omar Al Berek



Members of the Chinese team at practice in Irbid (AFP photo)

equalised from a free kick in the 20th minute, ending the first half 1-1.

Yemen's Ali Abu Ghaieb blocked Pakistan's only real chance in the second half. Al Berek scored his team's goal in the 52nd minute.

Pakistan surrendered to defeat allowing Yemen to score 3 goals within four minutes. Ahmad Al Bred scored the third goal in the 77th minute. Teammate Wijdan Al Shazli netted in the fourth goal in the

80th minute and Mohammad Hassan scored the fifth goal of the match attended by 500 fans only.

In Wednesday's matches Jordan face China at 4 p.m., while Iraq play Yemen at 8:30 p.m.

STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Points
Yemen	2	1	1	..	6	2	4
China	1	1	5	..	3
Jordan	2	..	2	..	2	2	2
Iraq	1	..	1	..	1	1	2
Pakistan	2	2	1	10	0

Papin, Gullit unlikely to make AC Milan side

MUNICH (R) — AC Milan plan to select dependable striker Daniele Massaro for Wednesday's European Cup final with Marseille which would leave foreign stars Ruud Gullit and Jean-Pierre Papin competing for a place on the bench.

The fact that Gullit and Papin, both former European footballers of the year, are unlikely to make the team is a chilling warning to the French champions of the firepower Milan coach Fabio Capello has at his disposal.

But Capello's choice will be based on pragmatism rather than any attempt to score psychological points.

Massaro, who celebrated his 32nd birthday last Sunday, is in better form and health than his more illustrious team mates.

"The condition of (Marco) Basten is improving, so is that of Papin. Gullit still has a few little

problems but Massaro is in great shape," Capello said.

Dutchman Van Basten, current European Footballer of the Year, has started just two matches this year after an ankle operation and is still suffering pain from the old injury.

Papin, a member of the Marseille team which lost to Red Star Belgrade in the 1991 final, has had his plans of a reunion with his former colleagues upset by a calf strain followed by an eye injury suffered when he was hit by a ball during training.

The prolific French marksman returned to action last Friday in the league game at Cagliari but was withdrawn after an hour. Gullit, part of the three-man Dutch bloc at Milan, has not played for several weeks because of a thigh strain.

The industrious Massaro, who

joined Milan in 1986, is considered the best striking partner for Van Basten. The Italian netted a well-taken goal in the 1-1 draw at Cagliari.

Marseille, who are based at a luxury Bavarian hotel by a lake an hour's drive from Munich, are untroubled by injury problems.

Their sole selection problem concerns whether Jean-Jacques Eydelie or Jean-Christophe Thomas will play in midfield.

Veteran Belgian coach Raymond Goethals is likely to opt for the hard-running Eydelie, who can also slot in at the back.

Marseille may however suffer from the burden of expectation as they seek to become the first French club to lift a European trophy of any description. "I have tried to calm the players down," millionaire Marseille President Bernard Tapie said.

The Italian champions, due in

Munich Tuesday, are seeking their fifth European Cup in all and their third in the last five competitions after triumphs in 1989 and 1990.

A win would give Italy a clean sweep of this season's European honours after Parma took the Cup Winners' Cup and Juventus lifted the UEFA Cup.

Teams (probable): AC Milan — Sebastiano Rossi, Mauro Tassotti, Paolo Maldini, Alessandro Costacurta, Franco Baresi, Demetrio Albertini, Frank Rijkaard, Gianluigi Lentini, Roberto Donadoni, Daniele Massaro, Marco Van Basten.

Olympique Marseille — Fabien Barthez, Basile Boli, Jocelyn Angloma, Marcel Desailly, Eric Di Meo, Jean-Jacques Eydelie, Didier Deschamps, Franck Sauzeau, Abedi Pele, Alen Boksic, Rudi Vociler.

Suns score 105-91 over Supersonics

PHOENIX (AP) — Oliver Miller, hitting his shots and asserting himself underneath in the fourth quarter, led the Phoenix Suns to a 105-91 victory over the Seattle Supersonics Monday night in the opening game of the Western Conference final.

The 6-foot-9 (2.06-metre) rookie centre scored 11 of his 15 points and had seven of his 10 rebounds in the last period, doing most of the damage in the first 3 1/2 minutes while Charles Barkley rested.

It seemed as if the Suns were swatting shots every time Seattle ventured near the basket. Phoenix blocked 16 shots, a team playoff

record. Miller led the way with five.

The Suns sent Seattle to its fourth straight loss on the road in the playoffs. Game 2 of the best-of-7 series is Wednesday night at Phoenix.

Phoenix outrebounded the Sonics 44-40 and applied strong pressure defence. The Sonics did score a field goal in the fourth quarter until Nate McMillan's 20-footer with 7:45 left. The Suns had extended a 76-65 third-quarter lead to 88-70.

Cedric Ceballos led Phoenix with 21 points despite playing only 23 minutes after suffering a strained left foot midway through the third quarter. Kevin Johnson had 16 points for the Suns. Barkley grabbed 14 rebounds but scored only 12 points and did not go to the foul line all game.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMARA HIRSCH
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COUNT YOUR TRICKS

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 8 5
♥ 7 2
♦ 6 5 3 2
♣ 6 3

WEST EAST
♠ 7 4 2 ♠ 6
♥ 9 8 5 ♥ Q 10 8 6
♦ Q J 10 ♦ K 9 8 7 4
♣ A Q 10 9 ♣ J 8 7

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 9 3
♥ A K 8
♦ A
♣ K 5 4 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠.
In isolation, some card combinations are so easy to handle that a declarer can get careless. Consider North-South's club holding on this deal. If you don't think about the hand as a whole, you could end up going down one, as did declarer.

With a hand worth 20 points, South needed no more than a peep out of partner to contract for game, once a fit was confirmed. West led the queen of diamonds, and declarer saw little problem to the play.

After winning the first trick in hand, declarer crossed to the eight of trumps and led a club to the king. West took the ace and returned a trump. Declarer won and exited with a club. Again on lead, West returned another trump, and declarer eventually had to concede a heart and a third club for down one.

Declarer's play was correct for 11 tricks. With only 10 needed to fulfill the contract, a pause to count winners might have suggested the winning line to South.

There were eight fast tricks to be had. The obvious way to get two more was to ruff clubs in dummy, and to achieve that goal the location of the ace of clubs was immaterial. At trick two declarer should simply have led a club from hand. Best is for a defender to win and shift to a trump. Declarer wins on the table and leads a club to the king. If East has the ace, declarer may still make an overtrick. As the cards lie, the monarch falls to the ace and West returns a trump, but now there are still two trumps in dummy for club ruffs, and there are more than enough entries to the closed hand to take them.

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Japan remains world's largest creditor

TOKYO (R) — Japan retained its status as the world's largest creditor nation at the end of calendar 1992, thanks to its rapidly growing current account surplus, a ministry of finance (MOF) official said Tuesday.

Japan's net overseas holdings — the balance between assets and debts it holds abroad — hit a record of \$513.6 billion in 1992, up \$130.5 billion from the previous year's record \$383.1 billion, the MOF said in a report.

Comparable 1992 figures for

other major nations are not available yet, but the MOF official said Japan's net external assets should remain top for the second consecutive year.

Germany had net foreign assets of \$333.9 billion at the end of June 1992. Its net external assets fell to second place in 1991 with \$345.4 billion, after being number one in the world in 1990.

The United States had net external debts of \$361.5 billion at the end of 1991, while Britain had net foreign assets of \$30.1 billion.

Japan's net external assets posted the eleventh consecutive year-on-year increase in 1992, largely due to the rise in its current account surplus, the MOF official told a briefing.

The nation's politically-sensitive current account surplus jumped by 61 per cent to a record \$117.6 billion in 1992 from \$72.9 billion in the previous year, according to MOF statistics.

"The rapid growth in Japan's current account surplus remains a

concern for the ministry from the viewpoint of (possible worsening of) overseas protectionism and trade friction," the ministry official told reporters.

However, the official added: "You must be aware that Japan's surplus is not exerting any adverse effect, such as reducing employment in other nations. Such a risk is slim."

The ministry said Japan's gross foreign assets totalled a record \$2.04 trillion at the end of 1992, Japan's private foreign secur-

ities investment rose to \$655.5 billion at the end of 1992 from \$632.1 billion, while direct investment overseas increased to \$248.1 billion from \$231.8 billion, the ministry said.

The ministry also said Japan's gross foreign debt fell to \$1.52 trillion at the end of 1992 from a record of \$1.62 trillion a year earlier.

Of foreign debts, foreigners' net purchases of bonds and stocks fell to \$431.4 billion in 1992 from \$443.8 billion a year earlier.

French bond plans draw bourse applause, jibes

PARIS (R) — Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's decision to launch a jumbo bond issue brought applause from investors Tuesday but critics accused the new French conservative premier of shifting economic gears in a panic.

French stocks gained ground as investors welcomed Mr. Balladur's plans, announced Monday, to beef up his economic recovery plan by launching a 40 billion franc (\$7.2 billion) bond.

The bond issue will finance new public spending on infrastructure and government work schemes before proceeds from a privatisation programme begin flowing later in the year.

ending the two-week-old policy of belt-tightening.

The left-wing daily liberation called Mr. Balladur's move "a curious change in speed, which looks a bit disorderly."

Mr. Balladur's decision to add muscle to the earlier plan, which mixed belt-tightening, tax increases and modest stimulus measures, underscored his centre-right government's deepening concern over the sluggish economy and stubborn unemployment.

Charles Millon, parliamentary leader of the centre-right Union for French Democracy (UDF), the partner in the ruling coalition, said Mr. Balladur, who took power in late March, had been surprised by the magnitude of France's economic problems.

Joblessness rose to a record 3.1 million people or 10.7 per cent in March. The government expects 350,000 more job seekers by the end of the year, up from an earlier estimate of 275,000.

The abrupt shift in emphasis from economic austerity to fuelling growth and stemming job losses has raised eyebrows.

"When someone says the budget deficit has to be cut and then takes out a loan, I say he is pursuing the policies of a short-sighted idiot," said Francois Hollande, one of the Socialist Party's young leaders.

"It seems that the government has started to panic somewhat about the recession," said Philippe Brossard, economist at state-owned bank Credit Lyonnais. He called the bond a "sea change."

The independent economic think-tank OFCE said the package would fail to pull the French economy, forecast to shrink by 0.75 per cent in the first half of 1993, out of recession.

Company failures in Britain decline

LEEDS (R) — British company insolvencies fell for a second consecutive quarter early this year. A clear sign the country's longest recession for more than half a century is finally over, according to statistics.

British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) figures showed company insolvencies fell a seasonally adjusted five per cent to 5,705 in the first quarter of 1993 from 6,029 in the previous quarter.

The news will provide some relief to the ruling Conservative Party, trying to restore its political authority after a recession which has battered the corporate sector and sent unemployment soaring to 10 per cent of the workforce.

The government was given a dose of bad news recently when shipyard Swan Hunter, in the depressed north-east region of England, called in the receivers after failing to win a vital order to build a royal navy helicopter carrier.

Around 2,200 jobs at the historic shipyard are directly under threat, with a shadow cast over 4,000 related jobs in a region which was once the world's biggest shipbuilding centre.

But the conservatives will take comfort from the fact that insolvencies, traditionally a lagging economic indicator, were also two per cent down in the first quarter of 1993 compared with the comparable year-ago quarter.

"This is very good news. At the beginning of the year we said it was premature to announce the end of the recession. Today's figures provide evidence that the economic tide is turning, perhaps even quicker than many have expected," said Richard Brown, director of policy for the BCC.

"Falling levels of insolvencies will be good for business and employee-consumer confidence, will staunch the decline of capacity, and will ease the burden of bad debt on business," he added.

For British business, the last year has been dreadful. In the year to the end of March, the total number of insolvencies in England and Wales was 24,334, representing 2.2 per cent of all registered companies.

U.S. women said to pay more than men for many of the same goods

WASHINGTON (AP) — Women in America pay more than men for the same goods and services, from cars to health care to dry cleaning, according to a new book aimed at helping women get more for their money.

For example, women buy about half the new cars sold each year, but a white woman would pay about \$150 more for the same car as a white man and an African-American woman would pay about \$800 more, according to "Why Women Pay More," published by consumer advocate Ralph Nader's Centre for Responsive Law.

"There is an element of suckerism," said book's author Frances Cerro Whittelsey, a former reporter for Newsday and the New York Times. She said culturally women have not educated themselves to money matters so well as they should.

When women visit doctors with the same illness as a man, they're

prescribed more tests and drugs and told to come back more times than men, her book says.

At dry cleaning establishments, a woman's white cotton shirt traditionally costs about 27 per cent more to launder than the same style man's shirt, the book reports.

Ms. Whittelsey found similar inconsistencies in other areas.

In auto insurance, women over age 25 pay the same as men although women have fewer accidents.

In clothing, a man's knit shirt is almost always less expensive than the same style in the women's department.

For haircuts, two out of three shops in New York charged women \$20 for basic shampoo, cut and blow dry, while charging men \$16.

Women still earn an average of 74 cents for every dollar earned by a man, according to the book.

The women's movement has focused on inequities in employment, said Ms. Whittelsey. "I don't think they have looked sufficiently at the marketplace."

Part of the problem can be solved through laws, but women have to stop spending on items that are impractical and overpriced in an effort to please men, she said. "Women obsess about their appearance and fashion."

She cited elaborately decorated, artificial fingernails. They cost about \$60 a month to maintain, and they are often purchased by women whose incomes are relatively low.

"I have overheard women in beauty shops admit that they would lose their husbands if they didn't have them," she said.

The same goes for high-heeled shoes.

"Stiletto heels, which make their wearers appear long-legged, force women to take small steps

instead of on-the-ground strides," Ms. Whittelsey writes.

They also cause corns, callouses, inflammation of the Achilles tendon, hammertoe, general pain in the ball of the foot, an enlargement at the back of the heel bone and more visits to podiatrists than men make, she quotes a podiatrist as saying.

The 193-page book has spending tips, reading lists and the names of government and private organisations that can help with general marketplace perils, health, finance, legal needs, advertising and fashion.

In general, women are advised to:

- Be assertive.
- Learn basic information about home and car repairs.
- Negotiate and be prepared to walk away if the price is not right.
- Complain to proper authorities in cases of incompetence and fraud.

Russian exports key to '93 platinum prices

LONDON (R) — Uncertainty over Russia's ability to make regular shipments to the West is expected to underpin platinum prices in 1993 but is unlikely to spark a major rally, the world's leading refiner, Johnson Matthey PLC, has said.

Analysts cite political unrest in Russia and the country's administrative problems as the reasons that its ability to maintain supplies is in doubt.

World demand is expected to increase by at least 200,000 ounces in 1993 after falling by 240,000 ounces in 1992 but the recent price rally which has taken platinum to nine-month highs is seen slowing.

The rise in world demand will be mainly due to higher auto emission standards in the United States and European Community which will result in increased use of platinum in car exhausts.

The positive and negatives for prices in 1993 are well balanced, said Johnson Matthey, indicating a price range of \$330 to \$390 an ounce.

Platinum, trading in London at

around \$384 an ounce, was propelled higher recently by worries over violence and political unrest in South Africa, the world's leading supplier, and also speculative buying of precious metals after their market requirements. They must be selling from reserves.

"Demand is going to increase for both platinum and rhodium. It is legislation-driven. Even though car sales are so bad worldwide, usage of platinum and rhodium is going up," he said.

But Mr. Green added: "We're practical and we don't see a sustained price recovery."

The main uses of the metal by sector in 1992 were in automotive catalysts to reduce toxic emissions with 1.55 million ounces, up from 1.57 million in 1991, and jewellery with 1.51 million ounces, from 1.47 million previously.

Demand was greatest in Japan, at 1.86 million ounces or 49 per cent of Western world buying, followed by western Europe with 840,000 ounces and North America with 715,000.

The platinum group metal output was affected proportionally, Johnson Matthey's operations director, Keith Greeo, told Reuters in an interview. "They don't seem to have problems meeting their market requirements. They must be selling from reserves."

"Demand is going to increase for both platinum and rhodium. It is legislation-driven. Even though car sales are so bad worldwide, usage of platinum and rhodium is going up," he said.

But Mr. Green added: "We're practical and we don't see a sustained price recovery."

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S. Korean economy brightens up

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korea's business prospects are looking up, thanks to a government stimulus package and increased exports partly fuelled by the stronger yen, business leaders and officials say.

The Federation of Korean Industries (FKI), which groups the country's major conglomerates, has reported that the business survey index, which measures business confidence, hit 119 in May from a record low of 89 in January.

Deputy Premier and Economic Planning Minister Lee Kyung-Shik said recently that the economy had shown a mild recovery in the first quarter and that indicators pointed to further improvements to cut government-regulated interest rates and ease monetary controls.

Partly due to eased accessibility to funds, corporate bankruptcies numbered around only 1,500 in the first two months of the year, down from the 2,000 posted in the last two months of 1992, Mr. Lee was quoted as saying.

Romanian president urges crackdown on corruption

BUCHAREST (R) — Romanian President Ion Iliescu called Monday for a crackdown on corruption at all levels and warned that lack of action could threaten Romania's fledgling democracy and market economy reforms.

"I appeal to all institutions in charge of public order and observance of law... to investigate and make public all cases of corruption," Mr. Iliescu told a news conference in response to news media allegations that corruption has become rampant since Romania became a market economy three years ago.

He urged parliament to draw up immediately anti-corruption laws and severe penalties against offenders.

"Authorities must take a clear stand against those involved in cases of corruption or breach of law, irrespective of their job or position in any hierarchy," Mr. Iliescu said.

He said state-owned companies presented the worst records of fraud and declared: "The phenomenon of corruption can compromise our democracy and the course of economic reforms."

Mr. Iliescu said many managers of state-owned companies had almost ruined their companies after concluding profitable businesses with private firms secretly owned by those managers.

News reports say scores of government officials have been involved in illegal deals and some senior government members and presidential staff had tried to stop investigation of cases of corrup-

tion or tax evasion.

The independent daily papers Adevarul and Evenimentul Zilei, leaders of the anti-corruption campaign, warned that if true the allegations could rock the country.

Last week, the left-wing government headed by Prime Minis-

ter Nicolae Vacariu decided to submit the accounts of state-owned companies to thorough checks by government experts.

Mr. Vacariu urged government officials to take "drastic steps to destroy corruption rings and big smuggler's networks."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY MAY 26, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Hold your present position intact and watch for a pretty rough going with the assistance of your closest friends, who will gladly cooperate with you, in whatever your planning if you are up front with the details.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Seek out those friends and acquaintances who are experienced in the new type of interests that motivate and steer clear of older people who delay you.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) It is advisable you listen to one in a position of influence who is current in activity to uncover the best way to put in motion worldly abilities.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't hold on to the past but look to the future now with confidence that you will be able to join in new age interests for a greater success.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) It is up to you to modernise whatever your business activities if you are to have the greatest possible operative skill with them.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You need to get out of the rut of being just with conventional persons and find out how those living in the jet age live and think about today's world.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Find the gadgets and tools that will bring your work load up to date and you then can produce

better results and have greater benefits flow to you.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) This day can be filled with electricity for you if you get out at the recreations and amusements that appeal to you, enjoy with congenial friends.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You are too inclined to be holding on to outmoded conditions at your residence and you have good day to replace them with new things, ideas.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You can think of interesting comments to make and ways to please those with whom you communicate more by adopting a new style, slant, stance.

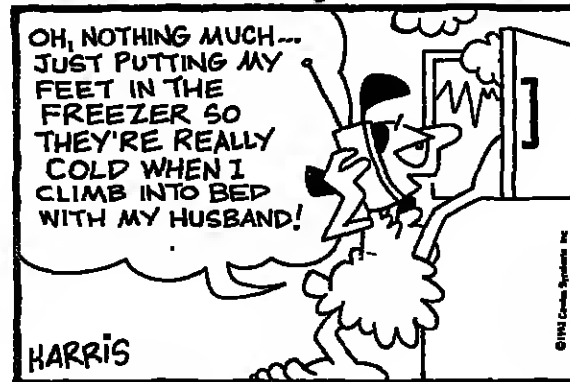
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) This is your day to make your property and possessions more valuable by adopting more current conditions and devising a more modern budget.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Now you can really let go of and discard what you no longer want in your life and replace with what you have secretly desired for some time.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Take time out today to get out from under long time anxieties and fill yourself with cheerful and exciting ideas that you can live in the future.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



HARRIS

Peanuts



Andy Capp



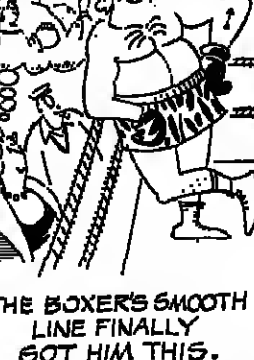
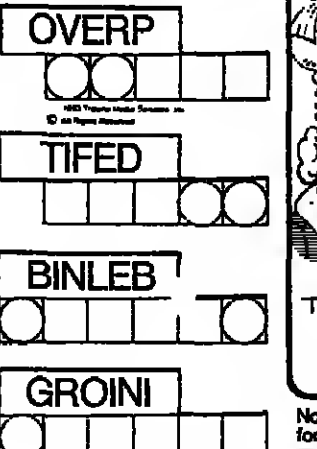
Mutt'n'Jeff



JUMBLE.

by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



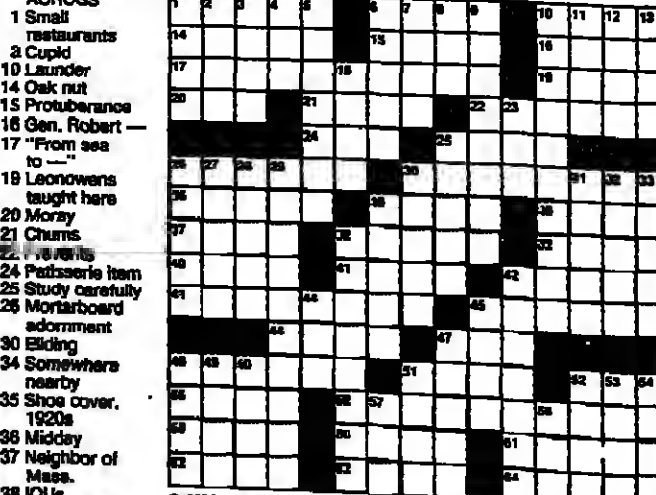
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: RODEO FAVOR THIRTY BRIDLE
Answer: What she called her sourpuss husband—HER BITTER HALF

THE Daily Crossword

by Valentina Barnes



- ACROSS**
- Small restaurants
 - Cupid
 - Laurel
 - Oak nut
 - Probarance
 - Gen. Robert
 - From sea to —
 - Laurens taught here
 - Morty
 - Chums
 - Paris
 - Patience item
 - Study carefully
 - Mortarboard adornment
 - Sliding
 - Somewhere nearby
 - Shoe cover, 1920s
 - Midday
 - Neighbor of Mass.
 - JOUE
 - Demolished corcio
 - Elliptical
 - Speed contest
 - Blanket
 - In a peaceful manner
 - Stints
 - Except
 - Wet
 - Nap
 - Surface ice
 - Rick or stack
 - Deer war
 - "They that go down to the —" (Psalms)
 - Ascent
 - Agitation
 - Touch, e.g.
 - On a cruise
 - Erodes
 - Regulator
- DOWN**
- Lawsuit
 - Pain
 - Thwart
 - Sea eagle
 - Tidbit
 - Devious method
 - Spanish or Irish
 - Lyric poem
 - Computer data
 - Wind of the —
 - (Tennyson) "I cannot tell —"
 - Brand
 - Skirt bottoms
 - Nab
 - Miss the mark
 - Home or silver end
 - Fast food
 - Over
 - Detection device
 - Chasm
 - Substory
 - King Cole
 - Bleeding
 - Small amounts
 - Brave
 - Post Teasdale
 - Small insects
 - Type of rock
 - Accompl
 - Suggestion
 - Cathedral and river
 - Spanish queen
 - Fowl